Hafa Adai!

Volume XXIV, Issue No. 75

WEDNESDAY APRIL 16, 2014

www.saipantribune.com

Saipan Tribune

75¢

FOR SAFER ROADS

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, third from right, Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider, right, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), second from left, and other dignitaries look on as RNV Construction representatives demonstrate the use of a thermoplastic applicator—a state-of-the-art machine spewing retroreflective road marking—at yesterday's "groundbreaking" for a $147,280 road marking and signage upgrade project.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

See story on Page 2

GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: 235-6397
235-2440

FAX: 235-3740

EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

259 DAYS

BEFORE THE CW PROGRAM EXPIRES ON DEC. 31, 2014

OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Do you plan to go up Mt. Tapochau this Good Friday?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

NATION

The Washington Post and *The Guardian* win a Pulitzer Prize in public service. ➤ PAGE 16

WORLD

Islamic militants in Nigeria set off a bomb blast that kills at least 72 people. ➤ PAGE 17

LIFE & STYLE

Street artist Banksy may have struck again, with a spy-themed graffiti. ➤ PAGE 21

'CW extension already decided'

» 3 bills to end program in 2019

» Immigration reform eyed within 5 years

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. Labor Secretary Thomas Perez has already decided on the request to extend the program that allows the CNMI's continued direct access to some 10,000 foreign workers beyond 2014 so it's only a matter of time to make that decision public, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said yesterday. Whether any such extension will be for five years or less is anyone's guess but three pending bills in Congress would extend the CW program up to 2019 and there won't be any further extensions.

See EXTENSION on Page 4

Delays in CUC priority projects

» Board approves seeking waiver on penalties from feds

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Top officials of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. disclosed that two priority projects required under a federal court mandate continue to face challenges that may further delay their completion due to the increasing costs and some technical problems.

These two projects—replacing a rusting 8-inch aboveground pipeline and a dilapidated diesel fuel oil tank—are both required by Stipulated Order No. 2 and are under a court order to be completed within a set timeline.

The diesel pipeline is in dilapidated condition and is not cost-effective to repair and has to be replaced with a new one. The Tank 102 project involves a 500,000 gallon diesel fuel oil tank. This will replace Tank 010 which has been found to be a source of pollution and is non-repairable.

CUC executive director Alan Fletch-

See DELAYS on Page 4

Inos: We still can't afford pay increases

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday that the government still cannot afford implementing within-grade increases because it remains under austerity. Moreover, even if the austerity is lifted, there is still no funding for any such salary hikes, which could cost $5 million to $6 million a year.

Inos echoed acting Personnel director Joseph M. Pangelinan's memo that within-grade increases are still not allowed.

Since 2001 under the administration of governor Pe-

See INOS on Page 4

Testimony tells how investigation shifted to Crisostomo

» Joan Castro, ex-common-law wife of Crisostomo, also a DPS informant

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Federal Bureau of Investigation special agent Joseph Auther testified yesterday in Superior Court how their investigation in the kidnapping and murder of bartender Emerita Romero shifted to Joseph A. Crisostomo after the latter's former common-law wife gave tips about a rented car.

Testifying for the CNMI government in the ongoing jury trial of 40-year-old Cristostomo, Auther also disclosed that when Joan Castro, the former common-law wife of Crisostomo, identified the defendant as

Crisostomo

the male voice in the 911 call that Romero made in the early morning of Feb. 5, 2012, it confirmed that they were on the right track.

Auther, who is now assigned to the FBI Colorado office, recalled how he and the FBI Saipan office assisted the Department of Public Safety in the investigation into Romero's case in 2012.

He recalled that he was at home on Feb. 5, 2012, when he received a call about a waitress (Romero) who was reported missing. Auther said he then spoke with Ron Biggers, one of the owners of

See CRISOSTOMO on Page 4

CUC not likely to renew call center contract. PAGE 3

Kilili submits funding requests for over 200 programs in 2015. PAGE 5

Local

THE GIFT OF GIVING CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

On behalf of the Northern Marianas Insurance Association, vice president Shirley Sablan, far right, presents a donation check to NMI Crime Stoppers chair Brian Clayton, third right, in support of the NMICS 2014 Annual Crime Stoppers Soft Pitch Softball Tournament slated for May 23-25. The donation presentation was held on Friday, April 11, at the Department of Public Safety's Central Office. Others in the photo from left to right: NMIA director Terry Guerrero, DPS' Jason Tarkong, NMIA community relations chair Suzi Perez, DPS Commissioner James DL. Guerrero, NMICS volunteer Jill Arenovski, NMIA secretary Eli Buenaventura, and NMIA treasurer Gol Corpuz. Also in the photo is an unnamed NMICS volunteer.

$147K islandwide road marking and signage project takes off

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Pedestrians and motorists traversing the Beach Road and Mi-

crol intersection to the San Vicente traffic signal intersection will see improved road striping and traffic signage by October or earlier, as officials broke ground yesterday on a $147,280 islandwide road marking and signage upgrade project.

The Route 31-Chalan Monsignor Guerrero road marking and signage upgrade is one of six major projects of its kind to begin this month, Department of Public Works officials said.

This would also be the first time in a long while that major Saipan roads will receive this kind of improvement.

Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider said the project affirms the administration's continuing efforts to see ways to "provide higher standards of safety to our motorists and pedestrians."

"This is another good indication of our commitment to ensure that public funds are spent wisely for the benefit of our people," said Hofschneider, reading Gov. Eloy S. Inos' remarks at yesterday's groundbreaking held in an area near the entrance to the Joeten Superstore, near Napa, in San Jose.

Joining the governor and lieutenant governor at the DPW ceremony were Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), Saipan Mayor Donald Flores and Public Lands Secretary Pete A. Tenorio, press secretary Angel Demapan and DPW's Technical Services Division director Ben Cabrera, among others. DPW Secretary Martin Sablan was off island.

As part of the ceremony, the governor and the Saipan mayor each tried their hand at operating a thermoplastic applicator—a road marking machine—to place bright, retro-reflective yellow road marking on a portion of the road across San Jose Mart. They did so with the help of RNV Construction personnel, and while other government officials and guests looked on.

Funding for the road improvement project came from the U.S. Federal Highway Administration.

RNV Construction, the project contractor, received the notice to proceed on March 19, and the estimated completion date is Oct. 23.

"In an effort to see more successes like these, we will continue to support infrastructure development throughout our villages by working to secure more funding opportunities to meet the needs of the Commonwealth," the lieutenant governor added.

Sonya Dancoe, highway administrator and chief engineer at DPW, said the project will involve the replacement and rehabilitation of pavement markings, striping, crosswalks, painting of sidewalk curbs and paved medians, replacement and addition of traffic and directional signs, and the reconditioning of shoulders.

Dancoe said the CNMI receives some $3.2 million in federal road improvement projects.

She said islandwide road marking and signage upgrade is "long overdue."

Dancoe also said DPW is moving on an "aggressive schedule" to make sure all federal highway funds are spent in the CNMI, rather than see any of those funds return to Washington, D.C. and redistributed.

With the project's completion, visibility will be "significantly enhanced" to reduce if not eliminate road accidents, especially at night and when it is raining.

Other road marking and signage upgrade projects include the stretch of Beach Road from American Memorial Park to San Antonio; Middle Road or Chalan Pale Arnold from Navy Hill to the Chalan Kiya intersection; Dandan area, from the San Vicente intersection to the airport; and in As Perdido, along Chalan Tun Joaquin Doi.

Dancoe said this road project has been in the planning and development stages since 2012, as shown in the previous territorial transportation improvement plan.

DPW, under the Inos administration, has been moving a number of major highway projects. In August 2013, DPW broke ground on an over $4 million road improvement project from Kagman to Capital Hill after a two-year snag over procurement protests and appeals. During the same month, DPW held a groundbreaking for an almost $950,000 new traffic light signal system project in Chalan Kanoa.

JOIN the MERRIMENT
at PIC this EASTER!
April 20, 2014
Enjoy a full day of activities including
Easter Egg Decoration at 10 AM,
the Great PIC Easter Egg Hunt at 3 PM and more!
Must purchase a PIC Waterpark pass to join the whole day of fun activities. $20 per person for local residents
The Easter Egg Hunt is FREE to all The Magellan and The Galley customers too.
Present a copy of your receipt to the Information Center to join the activity.
Savor a hearty Easter Brunch in The Magellan
perfect for families and friends.
*$30 per adult, *$15 per child
Magellan Brunch and Waterpark Promo
$33 per adult, $25 per child
Reservations recommended. Call 237-5126 or send email to FrancesKai.Mafnas@picsaipan.com
*Local resident discount applies. Must present a valid local ID.
PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN
www.picresorts.com

CUC not likely to renew call center contract

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The board of directors of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has instructed the agency's management to develop within the next 30 days a "transition plan" for CUC's customer call center service.

By this decision, the board hinted at the unlikely renewal of the $360,000 two-year contract of CUC's current call center agent, IT&E. CUC pays IT&E $15,000 monthly for this service.

Saipan Tribune learned that IT&E's contract is expiring on Nov. 28 this year.

Six months to its expiration, the board is looking at stopping the service despite the CUC management's claim that the call center program is working, recording over 7,000 customer calls monthly.

CUC chief financial officer Charles Warren earlier disclosed that the contract saves CUC a lot of money. It was learned that prior to contracting IT&E for the call center service, eight CUC employees used to handle all calls. They were paid over $200,000 yearly—or more than $400,000 in two years' time.

Warren compared this cost to what CUC currently spends for the call center service contract, which is $180,000 each year.

Board member Adelina Roberto said, however, that CUC should not rely on the service of a "third-party" contractor because "the only person that really cares for our customers is us."

Like board chair David J. Sablan, Roberto is convinced that the agency's own workers must be used for this important service. The two board members emphasized the "connectivity" needed to effectively perform the job.

Even if it costs CUC to retrain some staff to do the job, the two board members expressed willingness to go that route.

"The direction is to go back to the old system but retrain our people. And if it will cost a little more, let's invest in it to make sure our customers are satisfied. Based on what we received, satisfaction is not being met, which is making a much larger negative picture for CUC," said Sablan.

The "fair treatment" of customers, he added, must always be practiced.

He cited specific complaints received by the board about the existing call center service. "They call in and they get referred to two to three different people and still nothing is done. They call in and get referred to personnel and there is no call back. They call in for information, but personnel can't explain," Sablan said, adding that he has raised these issues with the management.

CUC's Warren later asked the board to allow the contract to just naturally expire in November. Warren is expected to present in future meetings a plan on the transition to in-house call handlers.

'Atalig has carried acts of deception, disrespect for court over past 7 years

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Disbarred lawyer Antonio M. Atalig has carried on acts of untruthfulness, deception, and outright disrespect for court orders for at least seven years beginning with the Angel Malite estate probate, according to Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman.

Wiseman discussed Atalig's previous criminal convictions and conduct in his dealings with the Superior Court in his written sentence and commitment order on contempt of court issued yesterday.

Atalig

Last Wednesday, April 9, Wiseman sentenced Atalig to six months in prison for his conviction on contempt of court for not reporting to the Department of Corrections to start serving his sentence in a domestic violence case. The sentence shall run consecutively with the eight-month sentence that was slapped against Atalig in a domestic violence matter. This means that the disbarred lawyer will serve a total of 14 months. He is expected to be released from DOC on May 7, 2015.

In his written order yesterday, Wiseman cited the Malite estate case, where Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo ordered Atalig to pay back the $1.1 million he wrongfully took from the estate.

Wiseman said that Atalig refused to do so and, after several hearings and opportunities to comply with the court's order, was eventually found in contempt and sent to prison. Wiseman said that Atalig stayed in prison for more than a year rather than comply with the court's order.

Further, he said, Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja found a total of 20 Rule 11 violations and fined Atalig a total of $5,900 and $1,000 for costs.

To this day, Wiseman said, Atalig has never returned one cent of the Malite estate money, and that case led to his suspension by the court. The CNMI Supreme Court later modified the Superior Court's order of suspension, upgrading the sanction to disbarment from the practice of law.

Wiseman said that contempt of court is an act or omission that interferes with the administration of justice, through conduct that disobeys judicial orders, shows disregard and disrespect for the authority and dignity of the law, or tends to embarrass, impede or obstruct the court in the performance of its functions.

Wiseman said the power of contempt is the sole means by which judges can enforce their orders and affirm the rule of law.

Wiseman said he believes that this is a case where the best interests of justice and of this society may be best served by imposing the maximum prison term as it may have a deterrent effect on Atalig's life upon his release, and on potential offenders who don't take orders seriously.

With respect to the domestic violence case, Wiseman said it was the third criminal case over the last decade or so where Atalig caused physical, verbal, and other abuse to his wife and children.

The third case, he said also showed defendant's disrespect for the court's orders in violating previous criminal case orders.

"The abuse got so terrible and dangerous for the family that they recently moved far away from defendant to the East Coast of the U.S.," Wiseman said.

At the sentencing hearing, assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas recommended a sentence of six months in prison, while defense counsel Robert Myers Jr. recommended a six-month probation sentence.

Wiseman found Atalig guilty of criminal contempt for not complying with the court's order requiring him to report to DOC on Feb. 15, 2014.

According to court records, Atalig pleaded guilty last year to assault and battery, two counts of disturbing the peace, and criminal contempt.

On Nov. 22, 2013, Wiseman sentenced him to eight months in prison. The judge then granted Atalig's request to delay reporting to DOC because he needed to fulfill many other obligations.

On March 7, Atalig surrendered to DOC to begin serving his eight-month prison term for domestic violence.

In May 2012, Wiseman suspended Atalig and Reynaldo O. Yana from practicing law in the CNMI for refusing to return $1.1 million in attorneys' fees that the two obtained from the Malite estate. In January 2014, the CNMI Supreme Court disbarred the two lawyers.

BW CAR RENTAL
Every Monday Special Rate
$100.00 for 3 days.
$100.00 Security deposit needed
FREE Pick up and Drop off Service
287-2727
Mon. - Sun. • 9AM-9PM
Across 13 Fishermen, near Century Insurance Bldg.

Happy April Holidays Saipan!
Celebrate the April holidays with a new Mitsubishi and $500 in Truckload Sale Gift Certificates!
2014 LANCER ES
UP TO 34 MPG
• Fuel-Efficient 4-cylinder Engine
• Automatic Transmission
• 4-Wheel Anti-Lock Brakes (ABS)
• Seven Airbags • Keyless Entry
• Bluetooth & Aux. Audio Input
• Power Windows & Locks
MITSUBISHI MOTORS
$18,995
AS LOW AS $135 per paycheck
2014 OUTLANDER SE
UP TO 31 MPG
7-Passenger Seating!
• Fuel-Efficient 4-cylinder Engine • Automatic Transmission
• 4-Wheel Anti-lock Disc Brakes • Seven Airbags
• Keyless Entry w/ Push-Button Start
• Bluetooth & Aux. Audio Input
• LCD Display w/ Back-up Camera • 18" Alloy Wheels
MITSUBISHI MOTORS
$27,995
Customers First TRIPLE J
$500 GIFT CERTIFICATE
TRUCKLOAD SALE
FINANCING AVAILABLE FOR AS LOW AS 5.75% APR
$500 in Truckload Sale gift certificates with the purchase of ANY MITSUBISHI!
Customers First TRIPLE J
TRIPLE J MOTORS
234-7133 / 234-3051
Mon-Fri: 8am-6pm • Sat: 8am-5pm
Beach Road, Chalan LauLau
www.carssaipan.com
YOUR NADA CERTIFIED SALES TEAM ASK FOR US BY NAME!
BEN MERCI FELIX
Like us on facebook
Triple J Motors, Saipan
*On approved credit, some restrictions apply. Documentation and registration fees not included. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Vehicles may not be exactly as shown. Maximum credit card payment toward purchase is $2500.
Lancer total price is $18,995 less 20% down payment. Financed at 5.75% APR for 60 monthly payments of $292.02 or $135 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price is $17,521.20.

DELAYS

From Page 1

er and legal counsel James Sirok disclosed that since the oil pipeline project was initiated in 2010, the cost has ballooned from just $1.8 million then to $6 million this year. The significant jump in cost was attributed to numerous problems that contributed to its delay. As a result, they explained, CUC continues to be assessed penalties by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Fletcher said the design build contract for the pipeline was awarded to Smithbridge in 2010 but the project was held up due to financing. A year later, EPA approved the pipeline design and a notice to proceed was issued. Due, however, to some deficiencies that were later uncovered, EPA withdrew its approval.

In 2012, the court ordered a redesign of the pipeline to reroute around contaminated soil and the contract was awarded to Vanderpoll Pipeline Engineers. Last year, both EPA and U.S. Department of Transportation approved the final design, which included several add-ons.

Plans are in place to complete the project in 2014. It was revealed that a final construction execution plan is due to EPA on May 17 and construction is expected to begin on June 14.

CUC expects to complete construction by Oct. 17 and full project completion is expected on Dec. 14 plus a 30-day buffer.

According to Sirok, CUC's biggest challenge at present is compliance with 49 CFR 195, which is a federal certification involving transportation of hazardous materials by pipeline. It was revealed that this specification is the first to be mandated in a pipeline project in the Pacific.

"The cost has ballooned over the years and it's at $6 million today," said Sirok, referring to the many changes that delayed the project for so long.

Funding for the oil pipeline is sourced both from federal monies and CUC revenue. Sirok admitted that because of CUC's funding constraint, implementation of the project and necessary changes affected the capability of CUC.

Sirok said CUC is "under the microscope of the judge and EPA" and is in a serious situation with the project. He disclosed that CUC will have to fly to California for the next hearing on the stipulated orders.

In considering the plight of the agency, the CUC board approved to seek relief from the EPA, to ask for its consideration and a waiver on the penalties and fees assessed on the project.

Tank 102 project

According to Fletcher, the Tank 102 project is also facing further delays, primarily due to technical and contract issues.

It was in 2011 when the RFP for a tank fabricator was released and the contract was awarded a year later. However, when EPA uncovered deficiencies in the geothermal review, a change order for additional foundation work was made.

It was in 2013 when the notice to proceed and construction began. However, the contractor—due to poor performance—was issued a default notice, resulting in a further delay.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

INOS

From Page 1

dro P. Tenorio, within-grade increases have been suspended. Subsequent governors continued to uphold and maintain the suspension.

Inos said the fiscal year 2014 as well as the 2015 budgets won't be able to accommodate any within-grade increase.

"The budget is pretty much consumed without the wage increase," the governor said.

The governor added that legislation may also be needed to address the within-grade increase that's been suspended for at least 13 years.

"The employees could say, 'yeah I need all the wage increase that's due me for the last 10 years.' We can go ahead and say okay, we're going to unfreeze the restriction and allow for wage increase starting this year but they have to wait. [There's] just a host of many issues," Inos added.

The Office of Personnel Management warned that some personnel actions for within-grade increases have been processed in violation of a 2001 suspension. OPM said it will return any such personnel action to the originating department or agency because of the "continued suspension of the benefit."

EXTENSION

From Page 1

A national immigration reform is expected before the proposed end of the CW program in five years under S. 1237, H.R. 2200, and H.R. 4296.

"After Dec. 31, 2019, there won't be any more CW program under these bills," Sablan said in an interview at his office in Susupe yesterday.

Current law allows determination whether an extension of the transition period is needed.

President Barack Obama could also use his executive authority over immigration and other issues between now and 2019.

Both S. 1237 and H.R. 2200 are omnibus territorial bills, while H.R. 4296 is a standalone bill.

The U.S. House Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs has already set an April 29 hearing on Sablan's H.R. 4296.

The bill, as currently worded, extends the transitional CW program by five years, up to Dec. 31, 2019.

Without such an extension, the program will end after Dec. 31, 2014, and this means the CNMI will be forced to send home some 10,000 skilled and professional foreign workers.

This comes at a time when the U.S. worker pool in the Commonwealth is too small to fill those jobs that will be vacated.

Sablan said H.R. 4296 will be amended to also extend the E2C investor visa program up to 2019, as well as extend the CNMI's exemption from receiving asylum applications beyond Jan. 1, 2015.

Once the amendments are done, H.R. 4296 will have most of the CNMI-specific provisions contained in H.R. 2200 and S. 1237, which is now up for a U.S. Senate floor vote.

But while S. 1237 makes its way to a U.S. Senate floor vote, four senators have already voiced out opposition to the Guam war claims and the waiver of up to $500,000 in local matching fund requirements for non-competitive grants to territories.

The U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee issued last week its 42-page report on S. 1237 or the Omnibus Territories Act, with amendments. For example, the removal of a CNMI provision on submerged lands because it already became law under a separate bill.

The companion legislation in the House of Representatives, H.R. 2200, meanwhile, has yet to have a hearing date since 2013.

Meanwhile, Sablan said the U.S. Labor secretary won't wait for the 11th hour before making his decision on the CW extension public. The Labor secretary has a July 4 deadline to make and announce a decision.

By that time, there's only five months left before the Dec. 31, 2014 end of the CW program.

Moreover, even if Perez extends the CW program by five years, the E2C investor visa program would still end after 2014 and the asylum application exemption would still be lifted after Jan. 1, 2015 unless they are extended through legislation, which is exactly what S. 1237, H.R. 2200 and H.R. 4296 intend to do.

Sablan said S. 1237 also allows military contractors to use H visa workers for buildup construction, if necessary. Guam and Tinian will be seeing construction projects as a result of the military buildup in the region.

CRISOSTOMO

From Page 1

Godfather's Bar where Romero worked, the victim's colleagues, and family members.

Auther said he later spoke on the phone with Taj Van Buuren, who called him and disclosed he was dating Romero and that they exchanged text messages before she went missing. Auther said that Van Buuren seemed very concerned with Romero being missing then.

Auther said he also talked to a Sri Lankan man who lives near Romero's house in Garapan, after one of Romero's co-workers stated that before the victim got into a car, she mentioned she was with a Bangladeshi neighbor.

Auther said his colleagues and police also looked into cell phone records and videos of nearby establishments.

Auther said he spoke with then-Department of Public Safety commissioner Ramon Mafnas and told him that they need a written request for the FBI to assist in the investigation.

In the afternoon of Feb. 7, 2012, Auther said that he and FBI special agent Haejun Park decided to search the former La Fiesta Mall, knowing it's abandoned. At the time, Auther said, DPS also did a search in the Marpi area.

Auther described how they searched the La Fiesta Mall, where they located Romero's body in a small room at the northern part of the building.

He said that Crisostomo became the primary suspect after police received information on Feb. 8, 2012, from Joan Castro about Crisostomo driving a rented car.

He said the car that Crisostomo's sister Annie rented was found at Islander Rent A Car and that it was then brought to the DPS Boating Safety Section's hangar.

Auther said he was in charge of sorting the box that contained trash that was collected for several days from the vehicles of Islander Rent A Car. He said there was a lot of hairs, bottles, food and other items, but he did not find anything of significant value to their investigation.

On Feb. 10, 2012, Auther said he contacted Motorolla in Guam because they were told that Romero made a 911 call on Feb. 5, 2012. Auther considered the possibility that the 911 call may have been recorded and that DPS was just finding it difficult to retrieve the call.

He said the technician from Guam arrived that same day of Feb. 10, and the 911 call was retrieved.

Auther said the 911 call was absolutely critical to the investigation because Romero broadcasted her location and it captured the voice of her assailant.

Auther said he met with Crisostomo at the Department of Corrections on Feb. 14, 2012, to talk about Romero's murder. Present at the interview was FBI special agent Todd Price. Other investigators were outside the room.

Auther said he offered Crisostomo a bottle of water but he refused to drink. Crisostomo, however, later stood up and took a drink from the bottle of water and then placed the bottle on the counter.

Auther said he took the bottle and threw it into the trash can. After five minutes, he retrieved the bottle from the trash can.

At that point in his testimony, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho, who is presiding over the trial, excused the eight jurors and Auther and asked them to return at 1:15pm.

Camacho said he is concerned whether the testimony about the water bottle was an intrusion on Crisostomo's privacy or if it was just a harmless error. He asked the counsels, particularly defense attorney Janet H. King, to research into the issue.

Without the presence of the jury, King and interim chief prosecutor Brian Flaherty argued extensively about the issue. A Corrections officer, who happened to be watching the trial in the courtroom, was called to the witness stand regarding DOC's policies.

Camacho then ruled that Crisostomo had no reasonable expectation of privacy as to the water bottle.

When he resumed his testimony, Auther related that when Crisostomo was escorted back to his cell, special agent Park told him outside that the water bottle may contain DNA. That's when Auther went back and retrieved the water bottle from the trash. The bottle was then sent to the FBI Lab in Quantico, Virginia, for analysis.

On Feb. 17, 2012, Auther said, he and several detectives played Romero's 911 call recordings for Castro, who then identified the male voice as Crisostomo's. After listening to the recordings, Castro appeared shaken and stated that she was having goose bumps, Auther said.

Auther described the 911 recording as "chilling and horrifying" as Romero could be heard screaming.

Auther said that during their Feb. 14, 2012 interview, he mentioned to Crisostomo that they have his footprints at La Fiesta. He said Crisostomo spontaneously showed the underside of his foot and that it's not his footprints. Auther said he saw that Crisostomo's foot appeared similar in size to the footprints found at La Fiesta.

When asked why Van Buuren was eliminated as a suspect, Auther said they established that Van Buuren was not with Romero at 3am on Feb. 5, 2012.

Auther said that based on their interviews and the text messages, they established that the taxicab driver indeed met with Van Buuren after Romero did not show up.

In the continuation of his testimony, police detective Elias Q. Saralu disclosed that Joan Castro is one of their confidential informants.

Saralu, a supervisor at DPS Narcotics Section, said they looked for Castro in order for her to identify the male voice in Romero's 911 call.

He said it was important for Castro to identify the male voice to corroborate their suspicion because detectives at the time had already recognized Crisostomo's voice in the 911 call.

Saralu said that Castro went to the DPS Criminal Investigation Bureau on Capital Hill to listen to the recordings. He said that Castro had goose bumps while listening to the recordings and that she recognized Crisostomo's voice.

Saralu said they asked Castro to identify the voice in the recording to corroborate their findings as she knew Crisostomo well, being her former common-law husband for over 15 years.

On cross examination, Saralu said that before making Castro listen to the 911 recordings, Auther informed her that the purpose of the meeting was about Crisostomo.

Saralu agreed with King that as a confidential informant, Castro got paid by DPS whenever an arrest or conviction is made. He clarified, though, that Castro was not paid for giving information regarding the Romero case.

He said that Castro's information about the rental car significantly narrowed the investigation to Crisostomo. He pointed out that they have a strong case against Crisostomo.

When asked by Camacho as to why Castro knew the specific colors of the car the investigators were looking, Saralu said it was already out in the media.

FBI forensics specialist on audio recordings David Snyder III also testified via Skype from Virginia.

Snyder said their FBI Lab in Quantico, Virginia, received a disc for enhancement coming from FBI Lab on Saipan. Snyder it was a 911 call and that the request was to make it more intelligible or so it can be understood. Snyder said the designated call lasted about two minutes and five seconds. Using scientific equipment, Snyder said they reduced the noise in the recording.

He said they separated the subject voice and enhanced it so it can be intelligible or can be understood.

He said they received the disc on March 28, 2012, and returned the finished product on April 2, 2012.

He said the male voice lasted for 10 seconds and at times was intelligible.

He said that voice identification is only an investigative tool, such as to narrow down a suspect.

Kilili submits funding requests for over 200 programs in 2015

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) submitted to the U.S. House Appropriations Committee a list of over 200 federal programs he recommends to be funded in fiscal year 2015 and the amount he supports for each. These include programs and services that benefit the CNMI, which receives over $200 million in federal funds every year.

Proposed federal funding for the CNMI alone covers programs and services related to health, education, public safety, employment, environmental protection, disability assistance, water, power and wastewater, youth activities, and promoting entrepreneurship.

The amount of federal government direct spending, obligation, and grants to the CNMI has long exceeded the local government's gross revenue. The governor's proposed 2015 budget is $134 million.

"These formal recommendations to the Appropriations Committee are an important means that all Members of Congress use to influence spending decision each year. I wanted to make sure you were aware of this process, which helps determines the federal programs that are funded and how much money each receives," Sablan said in an April 14 letter to Gov. Eloy S. Inos, a copy of which was released by the delegate's office yesterday.

The governor, in an interview yesterday, said the CNMI welcomes federal funding to the CNMI.

"We support that. But the climate in Washington, D.C. is basically an uphill battle for something like this but we support that and we urge the congressman [Sablan] to look for federal funding to cushion the shortfall," Inos told reporters at the groundbreaking for a $147,280 road marking and signage upgrade project.

Inos, a former Finance secretary, said he also encourages CNMI agencies to search for federal funding or grants "for many of their programs so we can help cushion many of the [local funding] shortfalls."

After the president has submitted his budget to Congress, a next step in the annual appropriation process is for individual members of the House of Representatives to submit their recommendations of programs that should be funded and funding amounts to the Appropriations Committee.

Sablan also included information about the amount of funding that the CNMI received for each program.

There are some programs, he said, for which the CNMI is eligible but for which no funds have been received.

Some can be competitive programs that the CNMI or individuals have chosen not to participate in or have not successfully completed.

"Or, in some cases, these are programs which benefit organizations or individuals in the Marianas but not with direct funding," he added.

Sablan requests funding for national programs and funding awarded in the CNMI or benefit provided to the CNMI.

For example, there is a request of $84.2 billion in supplemental nutrition assistance program or SNAP funding for the entire United States in fiscal year 2015. In the CNMI, the amount is $12.148 million in fiscal year 2014.

Another example is the supplemental nutrition program for Women, Infants and Children or WIC, whose requested funding at the national level is $6.8 billion for fiscal year 2015. In the CNMI, the fiscal year 2013 WIC funding was $4.5 million.

Although the Appropriations Committee bases its spending decisions in part on ideology and budgetary realities, member recommendations are also important, Sablan said, "a kind of voting where even 'non-voting' delegates are equal."

Last week, one of Sablan's recommendations—pertaining to veterans benefits—got the Appropriations Committee's nod.

Sablan said that veterans in the CNMI do not have direct access to the Veterans Benefits Administration so he asked that language accompany this year's Veterans Department appropriation requiring a report on how services are being delivered in rural areas like the CNMI. He said the Appropriations Committee agreed.

The delegate said the report is to include the number of veterans served, the type and frequency of services available, as well as an evaluation on the effectiveness of these efforts, their costs, and the resources needed to enable VA to provide more services to rural veterans.

"This kind of data can be the basis for legislation or administrative actions, improving care to the veterans in our islands and to underserved veterans throughout our country," he added. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

Bill seeks to raise Guam's minimum wage to $10.10

GUAM (Pacific News Center)—Vice Speaker B.J. Cruz introduced on Monday a bill that would raise the minimum wage in Guam to $10.10 an hour by 2017.

Bill 316 proposes a $0.95-cent increase in each of the next three years. The current minimum wage in Guam is $7.25 an hour.

The senator announced his intention to introduce the bill last Thursday during a meeting of the Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce, saying at that time: "We've already increased the Government of Guam. If you see the disparities between Gov-Guam and the private sector, it's embarrassing. So everyone is having to suffer through that already because of the increases that we've done with Competitive Wage Act and so it's only fair to make sure that those with the lowest wages right now are able to be able to buy that can of Spam and that bag of rice."

In a release Monday announcing the formal introduction of the bill, Cruz countered critics who say raising the wage rate to $10.10 an hour would be a "disincentive to earn more" because it would not be "insufficient to compensate for a corresponding decrease" in SNAP benefits.

He cites figures from the Food and Nutrition Service that administers SNAP which he says show that SNAP households are financially better off if they are able to secure employment or increase their earnings.

The measure itself is merely eight lines, setting the wage rates and the dates they will take effect over the next three years.

More than 6,500 families in Guam live in poverty, including nearly 2,900 families led by women who earn the only incomes in their home.

"When we are confronted by these truths, we have two choices," Cruz said. "We can ignore the fact that too many women—too many Guamanians—are working harder, earning less and paying more, or we can act boldly, recognizing right as well as reality." ***(With AP)***

AYURVEDIC
Thai Massage
April Thai New Year
$25.00 1 hour of full body massage
Call for appointment
We extend discount to T.W.I.C., Navy & Merchant Marines card holder.
$35.00 1.5 hours
$45.00 2 hours
We have Certified Theraputic Thai Massage over 10 years experience.
Open Daily from 11am to 11pm
Tel: 233-2249
2nd Floor, Winchell's Bldg., Garapan

MICRONESIA
RENT-A-CAR
MICRONESIA 24HRS RENT A CAR
Call: 287-8484 レンタカー 租车
BEST PRICE ON ISLAND!
Come over and see our fine selection of cars!
FREE PICK UP SERVICE
Call: 287-8484
Location: Garapan, across American Memorial Park or between Daycare and Dental Clinic
Some conditions and restrictions apply

HELP YOUR CHILD SUCCEED IN COLLEGE.
attend the
PARENT SUMMIT
FOR PARENTS OF HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Spend a couple of hours learning how to help your graduating senior:
- Successfully transition from High School to College
- Pay for college with financial aid
- Understand the value of a college education
- Tap existing resources specifically for college students

SUMMIT DATES
Monday, April 21, 2014 at Pacific Islands Club, for Parents of Saipan Southern High School Seniors
Tuesday, April 22, 2014 at World Resort, for Parents of Marianas High School Seniors
Wednesday April 23, 2014 at Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort, for Parents of Kagman High School (Kagman, Papago, Capitol Hill) Seniors
Thursday, April 24, 2014 at Aqua Resort, for Parents of Kagman High School (San Roque, As Matuis, Tanapag) Seniors
Monday, April 28, 2014 at Rota's Bayview Hotel, for Parents of Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr/Sr High School Seniors
Tuesday, April 29. 2014 at Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino, for Parents of Tinian Jr/Sr High School Seniors
ALL Parent Summits will be held from 5:00pm to 7:30pm. There is no fee to attend the summits. Light refreshments will be served. Visit marianas.edu to register.
NMC 1981 NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
COLLEGE ACCESS CHALLENGE GRANT

'Manta Ray Band performances a feat of historical significance'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Southern High School's Manta Ray Band delivered an unprecedented number of superior performances at a recent music festival in Guam where it took home more than 30 gold awards.

For Manta Band musical director and conductor William DeWitt, the consistency and overall high quality of the Manta Band's performances was a feat of historical significance.

"Never before in the 10-year history of the festival had a single school or organization garnered the highest-ranked adjudicated scoring and/or produced the command performance winner in such a wide-ranging multitude of categories," he said.

The recent awards achieved by its members included being No. 1 in instrumental soloist; instrumental small ensemble; jazz, rock, beyond division; in HS band division; in festival, as well as the overall 2014 Tumon Bay Music Festival sweepstakes champion.

Gold awards were also bestowed on its members including Junseo Park, command performance and euphonium solo; Angela Cruz, vocal solo; Norton Skerei, flute solo; Ryan Cole, marimba solo and mixed wind quintet (Steven Choi, horn; Emily DeWitt, bassoon; Iris Yu, clarinet; Kevin Hwang, clarinet, and Sarah Kim, flute), small ensemble; clarinet quartet (Kanani Lee, Herman Guerrero, Sung Jun Kim, and Jee Hyun Lee), small ensemble; trombone quartet (Katrina Cruz, Kun Lee, Junseo Park, and Ji Hoon Lee), and small ensemble.

The SSHS Pop Ensembles (Kanani Lee, Herman Guerrero, Sung Jun Kim, Jee Hyun Lee,Katrina Cruz, Kun Lee, Junseo Park, and Ji Hoon Lee) also bagged a gold in the jazz rock & beyond division.

SSHS Rock Band "FLOW" (Keoni Borja, A.J. Hernandez, Emmanuel Huertas, Raynalynn Alarca, Mikhail Alcantara, Art Borromeo, and Kadmiel Rey) was also honored for Highest Adjudicated in the jazz rock & beyond category; SSHS Percussion Ensemble (Yoon Jae Won, Ji Yoon Kim, Leila Hicking, Ryan Cole, Joel Jang, Art Borromeo, Yubin Park, Lica Ishida, Yeyoun Lee, Kun Lee, and Inhae Kim) for command performance, highest scoring, festival sweepstakes co-champion.

The SSHS Manta Ray Concert Band was also a gold medalist in the command performance, the highest scoring in the festival.

The band's success this year, DeWitt said, would not have been possible without the support of so many benefactors, dedicated parents, and hard-working chaperones like Mona Maratita, Andrew Golden, Atsuko Eck, Rose Igitol, and Ted Parker. The Public School System and the Board of Education were also instrumental in the effort to send these deserving musicians to the Tumon Bay Music Festival for the fifth time in the festival's 10-year history.

"This recent Manta Band success has not gone unnoticed by the world's elite festivals in Sydney, New York, LA, Honolulu, and Europe. As an entire ensemble, we have been invited (audition requirements were waived based on our band's reputation) to perform and compete at all of them in 2015, with more invitations expected soon. Economically, it is unfortunately not possible to participate in all of them," he said.

The band just completed a successful collaboration with noted concert pianist Roman Rudnytsky on Gershwin's iconic *Rhapsody in Blue*, performed both on Saipan in March and in Guam during the festival.

"Our members have received and are currently considering accepting individual invitations to participate in performance tours and festivals in the summer of 2014 at such places as the Sydney Opera House, the 70th Liberation Day parade in Guam, a worldwide music festival in Yeosu City, South Korea, a musical tour to Nagoya, Japan with the Guam Territorial Band, and the Hayward-La Honda summer band camp in San Francisco, CA," he said.

DeWitt said those interested to financially support any of these endeavors are encouraged to contact him.

The Manta Ray Band members will also be supporting the 70th anniversary of the Liberation of Saipan in June with music originating from the World War II era during the June 15 celebration at the American Memorial Park.

40 for 40 WINNER CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ernie Henzon is the fifth winner in Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc.'s 40 for 40 Giveaway promotion. Forty for 40 means 40 winners in celebration of 40 years for a year of free auto insurance. Last drawing is slated for Dec. 15. You must be a policyholder of Pacifica to be eligible to win. For information about Pacifica's 40 for 40 giveaway, log on to www.pacificains.com/fortyforforty or call 234-6267/7722/7310.

National SHRM speaker to address membership meeting this April 17

The CNMI Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management will be holding a membership meeting on April 7, 2014, from 11am to 2pm at the Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret. All members of the community are invited to attend.

The meeting will offer a special opportunity to the public. This month's speaker, Dianna Gould, SPHR, CAE, has over 20 years of experience in the human resource profession. She is currently the Field Services Director for the Pacific West Region for the Society for Human Resource Management. Prior to joining SHRM, she had experience as an HR professional with employers ranging from Fortune 500 companies to start-up firms. She has worked in the high tech, international export, manufacturing, and the service industry. Gould has been an active member with SHRM since 1991 and has served in a variety of leadership roles during that time. She is lifetime certified as a Senior Professional Human Resources.

Gould's topic at the April meeting will be "Energize and engage: How inclusion supercharges employee satisfaction and performance." She will discuss how the ability to create inclusive work environments with engaged employees has become a key lever for competitive advantage in today's rapidly changing world. In this session, attendees will explore key research findings on the role of inclusion as a driver of job satisfaction and employee engagement. In addition, the program will look at real-world examples of how organizations with inclusive cultures are attracting, engaging, and retaining talent and transforming their organizations into great places to work.

The attendance fee is $25 for SHRM members and $35 for non-SHRM members. Register with Micah at corpoffice@triplejsaipan.com or Malou Jardinero at Malou_Jardinero@tanholdings.com. Seats are limited, but still available.

As the local chapter of the world's largest organization for human resource practitioners, the CNMI SHRM holds monthly meetings on topics that will assist the Commonwealth's HR and management community in keeping abreast of current HR practices and employment law requirements, as well as providing them training on relevant human resource topics. The CNMI chapter has been active since 1996. ***(SHRM)***

Habitual offender curses judge at hearing

Nestor C. Taitano, a habitual offender who was arrested last month for allegedly throwing rocks at a store and making threats to kill anyone, cursed at Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja during Monday's hearing.

Saipan Tribune learned that Taitano appeared before Naraja for his arraignment.

Assistant public defender Eden Schwartz, counsel for Taitano, informed the court that the defendant pleads not guilty of all charges.

Taitano either kicked or pounded the table, spat, and uttered in loud voice," F—k you, judge!"

Judge Naraja remanded Taitano back into the custody of the Department of Corrections.

As a court marshal escorted him out the courtroom, Taitano badmouthed the marshal and became belligerent. Other marshals responded to assist the other court marshal and a DOC officer.

Assistant attorney general Peter Prestley appeared for the government at the hearing.

Police responded to Jin Li Store in Dandan last March 14 after receiving a report that a man, later identified as Taitano, threw rocks at the main entrance glass door and entered the store. The suspect then threw more rocks at a cashier and her two coworkers. The victims were not hit but some items were shattered.

Police learned that Taitano had threatened to kill his mother, some family members, and everyone else. He also allegedly made a threat that he would kill U.S. District Court Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Transfer Station, Marpi Landfill closed Friday

In observance of Good Friday on April 18, 2014, the Lower Base Transfer Station and the Marpi Landfill will be closed all day. Regular schedule will resume on Saturday, April 19, 2014, from 7:30am to 11:30am, and 12:30pm to 4pm. Happy Easter Sunday! ***(PR)***

Red Cross health and safety trainings

The American Red Cross is scheduled to conduct Preparedness Health & Safety training on the following dates:

- Tues., April 22, at 6pm: Infant & Child First Aid/CPR/AED (second session continues Wednesday)
- Tues., April 22, at 6pm: Infant & Child CPR/AED
- Wed., April 23, at 6pm: Standard First Aid

Classes are held at the chapter training room on Airport Road. Course fees apply. To register or for more information on other certification courses, contact the chapter office at 234-3459 or visit www.redcross.org/take-a-class. ***(PR)***

Free business training seminar

The CNMI Small Business Development Center will be offering a free business training seminar on Saipan on April 17, Thursday, at the Family Building (second floor), from 10am to 12pm. It will be presented by CNMI SBDC director Perry Inos Jr. There are limited seats; register by calling 664-3018. ***(PR)***

Friends of the Library info meeting set

There will be a Friends of the Library informational meeting on Saturday, April 19, at 10:30am in the Pacific Room of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. All are welcome to attend. ***(PR)***

CCA board meeting on April 22

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding its regular meeting on Tuesday, April 22, 2014, at 3pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Survivors, caregivers support meeting on April 24

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meetings scheduled for Thursday, April 24, 2014, starting at 5:30pm at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni's Restaurant. To RSVP or for more information, call the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com orcca@ccamarianas.org. ***(PR)***

Free erosion control training

Join the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality for a free workshop to learn about how to manage your land to decrease erosion and protect the environment on Saturday, April 26, 9am to 2pm, at Laolao Bay Golf Resort. Please contact Jihan Buniag at 664-8522 or 989-8442 to register. ***(PR)***

MINA, Hyatt sets tree planting

Join the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance and Hyatt Regency Saipan on Earth Day, April 22. MINA, in partnership with Hyatt, will engage with guests, associates, and the community in a native tree planting event at Laolao Bay from 8am onwards. To become a MINA volunteer email us at minaoutreach@gmail.com or call 233-REEF for more details. ***(PR)***

13 students hailed winners in NJFL regionals

» 'Coconuts' to travel to Overland Park, Kansas in June

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the National Junior Forensic League pose for a photo after successfully being hailed as gold medalists at the annual speech and debate tilt held at the Hopwood Junior High School campus last Saturday.

By THOMAS A. MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

Thirteen students were named members of the National Junior Forensic League team that will compete against thousands of other students from around the country this year after being crowned champions in their respective categories last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School cafeteria.

This year's event is the largest NJFL regional competition ever hosted in the CNMI. According to competition officials, because of so many entrants, the competition had to be broken up into three evenings and into the weekend. This allowed students to compete in English and Chamorro competitions as well.

The students hailed as gold medalists are Northern Marianas International School's Candice Aldan, for original oratory; Grace Christian Academy's Dianne Arnold and Pegg Pixley, for duo interpretation; and Marianas Baptist Academy's Minju Kang, for prose reading interpretation. Esther Kim from Grace Christian Academy will be representing the island in poetry; Marianas Baptist Academy's Won Kwon Kim, for Lincoln-Douglas Debate; Hyun In Noh, extemporaneous speech; Saipan Community School's Esther Park, storytelling; Mount Carmel School's Reica Ramirez, impromptu; Grace Christian's Melody Woo, humorous interpretation; and Hopwood Junior High School's Kelvin Wolf, for Dramatic Interpretation.

Two winners representing poetry and dramatic interpretation in the Chamorro language were also named. Hopwood Junior High School's Chloe Salvosa and San Vicente Elementary School's Nina Vladsimo won in their categories, respectively.

The team, known as the "CNMI Coconuts," will advance to the national NJFL competition in Overland Park, Kansas, in June this year, along with the high school national forensic league team.

HJHS' Kelvin Wolf said "it was a wonderful feeling to win again." He added, "Competition was stressful because I know I had to defend my title. With the help of my mom, who is my coach, I am glad I made it!" Wolf told the *Saipan Tribune* that he will be polishing his speeches for the national competition.

Wolf's mother and school coach, Johanne, said she is confident the team will do well. "I know it takes a lot of hard work, discipline, and late nights. We are proud. His determination paid off!"

Fellow NJFL national team member and GCA student Esther Kim echoed the same sentiment. "I feel excited and nervous because it is my first year going to nationals, but I also think I will have a fun time in nationals because I will be able to learn new things," she said.

GCA coach Ami Joy Danganan said this year marked the school's highest number of student gold medalists and top winners in all the years she has coached NJFL. "I prayed for each of my students. We dedicated this victory to the Lord who has blessed all of them with amazing talent and supportive parents," she said.

Long-time NFL board member and NJFL coordinator Angie Wheat said she is proud of all the participants. She is confident the CNMI will perform well in the national speech and debate tilt.

According to Wheat, this year's competition received over 60 participants from 10 schools.

"Everyone did a great job! All the coaches, judges parents, and board who participated made this a nearly flawless meet."

This year, both the National Forensic League and National Junior Forensic League may need to personally cover some of the trip expenses due to the financial shortfall of the Public School System.

School coaches and participants expressed concerns that some students may not be able to make it on the trip because of the lack of funds, especially for public school students. However, the organization in the past has successfully sent students under similar conditions and returned home with several awards and recognitions.

GOOD JOB!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Congratulations to Kelvin Wolf, for winning in the National Junior Forensic League Regional Competition and making it to the 2014 NJFL National Team that will compete in Overland Park, Kansas. Wolf won a gold for Dramatic Interpretation, a gold for Prose Reading, and a silver for Humorous Interpretation.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB14-DLNR-089

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MAY 02, 2014 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

E-BID SUBMISSION IS AUTHORIZED FOR THIS ITB TO
procurement@pticom.com
NO LATER THAN 10:00 A.M., LOCAL TIME, MAY 02, 2014

"CNMI STATE COMPREHENZIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES."

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK AND SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
SECRETARY OF DLNR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Jose T. Calvo
P.O. Box 546
Rota, MP 96951

Pro Se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE ESTATE OF NICOLAS M. CALVO	)	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 14-0050**
Deceased.	)	**NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR, FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

TO: ALL HEIRS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES AND CREDITORS OF: NICOLAS M. CALVO, DECEASED

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Jose T. Calvo has filed with the Clerk of this Court her Petition for Letters of Administration of the Estate of Nicolas M. Calvo, deceased. A Hearing has been set for the above-entitled matter and will be held in the Rota Courtroom of the Commonwealth Superior Court, located at the Rota Courthouse, Sinapalo I, Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, May 16, 2014.

For further particulars, please refer to the Petition on file herein, or contact petitioner Jose T. Calvo, P.O. Box 546, Rota MP 96951.

CREDITORS of decedent or of his estate are hereby notified that they must file their claims with the Clerk of the Superior Court within sixty (60) days of the first publication of this Notice, or the claims will forever barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to the petitioner at the address herein-above indicated.

DATED: April 9, 2014.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

By: /s/Daisy Mendiola
Deputy Clerk

PayAnyDay®
Personal Loan

5.99% APR*

Fixed for 4 Years
On a $10,000 Loan
(with $50 preparation fee)

Manage debt – Consolidate bills – Make large purchases

Do more for less and take advantage of our amazing rate for the PayAnyDay® Personal Loan. It is a smart way to consolidate and pay down large debts and high-interest credit cards. Let our bankers help you with a simple, customized solution to reduce your credit card debt and other high-interest loans.

APPLY TODAY. Visit fhb.com or call 1-800-403-7167.

Yes, We Care.

First Hawaiian Bank

fhb.com
Member FDIC
EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Gualo Rai Branch, Gualo Rai Commercial Center, Middle Road • Tel: (670) 235-3090 Fax: (670) 235-3094
Oleai Branch, Oleai Center, Beach Road Chalan LauLau • Tel: (670) 234-6559 Fax: (670) 236-8936

* The Annual Percentage Rate (APR) of 5.99% will apply to new, approved personal loan applications received 03/01/14 to 04/30/14 with a principal amount of $10,050.00 and a term of 48 months. Loans with other principal amounts ($2,500 minimum loan amount) and terms are available, but the promotional APR may differ. For Guam only, loan terms greater than 36 months require a minimum loan amount of $9,301.00. A one-time documentation preparation fee of $50.00 applies to all loans under this promotion and will be added to the principal balance. For a 48-month loan of $10,050 at 5.99% APR, you will have 48 monthly payments of $234.77, which includes principal and interest. Offer subject to credit approval. This offer does not apply to business or real estate loans. Also, the proceeds of the loan cannot be used to pay off any existing First Hawaiian Bank credit cards, personal loans or lines-of-credit.

Most schools' budget for instruction remains unutilized

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Three members of the CNMI State Board of Education have expressed concern on how funds allocated for student instruction are being handled by the Public School System, revealing that "a big chunk" of schools' budget for this purpose remains unutilized to date—just over a month left to the closing of the school year 2013-2014.

This was the sentiment shared by BOE vice chair Lucy Blanco-Maratita and members Marylou Ada and Tanya King during Friday's special board meeting.

A case in point, Ada said, is the San Vicente Elementary School, which, according to her, hasn't spent yet its $47,000 allocation for student instruction this school year. Ada disclosed that most schools have similar amounts that remain untapped.

Saipan Tribune learned that under the U.S. Department of Education's consolidated grant for PSS, a portion is allocated for public and private schools under the Title I funds. These monies are specifically intended for students' instructional needs and related services. PSS uses per child cost as the basis to determine how much each school will get from Title I funds.

Ada specifically inquired from federal programs officer Tim Thornburgh if the "unspent funds of a school" is being carried over to the next school year.

Thornburgh said some schools "save" their Title I funds or portions of it up to the end of the school year to increase their expected funding for the next year. He also disclosed that Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan could extend this unspent funds to the school as long as she deems it necessary.

Blanco-Maratita pointed out, however, that if this is how many schools are treating their yearly funds, this seems to be a disservice to the students.

"If you still have a big chunk remaining [on the account] and it is not being put to use, aren't we…doing a disservice to current student population if schools are not spending them? I am assuming that the money is spared because it is based on their needs but by saving it to the end of the school year, what's the benefits of waiting [for the end of the SY]?" asked Blanco-Maratita, adding that it is her understanding that schools, prior to the start of classes, already know what they will need for the year and this funding is provided to fill those needs.

Echoing Blanco-Maratita, Ada this practice of allowing schools to carry over the money to the next school year "shows a lack of planning [by principals)]. Because when you know that you're getting this year $275,000 you should have a ready plan how to use it for this year…if not, you're really cheating the students enrolled in that year if the money will be used for next school year."

King disclosed that this untimely spending of schools budget has been going on for many years.

Education Commissioner Sablan explained that all principals submit plans on how they will use their school appropriation each year. These submissions, she said, are reviewed by a panel.

It was learned that 40 percent of these Title I funds are to be used for help students who are struggling; another 40 percent will be spent on students who are meeting the requirements; and 20 percent is allocated for the school's technology.

Sablan said there are many RFPs (request for proposals) and purchase orders that are currently being processed. All these, she said, will tap Title I funds.

Additionally, Sablan said that many schools may also spend their funds in the fourth quarter or during the summer period for their after-school programs.

Sablan assured the board that PSS is closely tracking all these accounts.

Zoning urges public to attend outreach

The Zoning Office is encouraging the public to attend the many outreach activities it is hosting so they will understand the intricacies of the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

Zoning's administrator Therese Ogumoro said yesterday that they have been doing many of these outreach activities in schools.

She said the last outreach was at Saipan Southern High School. They will be having another outreach at Kagman Elementary School with the Parent Teacher Association for all Kagman schools that also include Kagman High School and Chacha Oceanview Middle School.

"We want to address and gain the public's understanding, to educate them more about the changes in the law and we would like to hear their concerns and that is our main aim this year," Ogumoro said.

Zoning will start implementing the law as professionally as possible and providing outreach is part of the office's way of reaching out to residents and businesses.

"We are trying to go one by one," Ogumoro said.

She said that Zoning has jurisdiction over all developments on construction buildings, both residential and commercial. Zoning is also in charge of land use in particular zoning districts. They also regulate signs, public nuisance section that includes junk cars, damaged and hazardous buildings, regulation of non-conforming structures built prior to February 2008, as well as parking, general building designs, landscape, lightings for parking, and street lights.

"Our office is busy taking up applications and meeting with clients and helping them," Ogumoro said. "We also have a pre-application process with developers where we help applicants by doing a pre-application meeting and assisting them and advising requirements."

Zoning planner Maryann Arriola said they want to inform as many people as possible about the new zoning law during their outreaches.

"The purpose of the presentation is to inform residents and businesses about the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013 and to educate them on the law," Arriola said.

According to Ogumoro, Zoning has also started its islandwide inspections.

"It is still ongoing and we'll continue through the following weeks on sign violations, unpermitted constructions, and trying to resolve those with responsible parties," Ogumoro said.

She noted that inspections next week will cover the area from the middle part of Saipan to the north end.

"We are spending a lot of effort providing public courtesy calls before actual notice of violation fee is imposed," Ogumoro said. ***(Jayson Camacho)***

China TV show, magazine discover NMI

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Representatives of China's Taiyuan TV's "Discovery" and *Modern Bride* magazine had dinner at Fiesta Resort & Spa on March 23, 2014, as part of their FAM tour of Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The group was assisted during their tour by Marianas Visitors Authority marketing specialist Laura Hsaio, fifth from left.

"Unbelievably crystal blue" is how one media outlet describes the underwater scene at Grotto on Saipan.

Taiyuan TV's "Discovery" program and *Modern Bride* magazine of China were on Saipan on March 21-24, 2014, to explore sights and sounds both above and below water. Popular dive spot Grotto, an underwater cavern with channels leading to the open sea, was just one of the stops on their busy itinerary.

"Discovery" took several tours during their visit: ATV, submarine, island, jungle, and American Memorial Park. *Modern Bride* magazine had wedding shoots at Mariana Resort & Spa chapel, Laolao Bay Golf Resort, Tank Beach, and Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Additional shoots were held at Ladder Beach and Agingan Point. Both groups also covered marine sports on Mañagaha.

Some of the media also went diving at Grotto and Laulau Beach.

"At Laulau Beach they were at the bottom of what they called a 'fish storm' and said the view was beyond description," said Marianas Visitors Authority marketing manager Bruce Bateman. "This is just one example of the world-class experience Saipan, Tinian, and Rota have to offer visitors on a daily basis."

The two media outlets met at several dining outlets to share meals during the tour, including Isla Café, 360 Revolving Restaurant, Kanoa Resort Barefoot BBQ, Pacific Islands Club Saipan Galley, and Fiesta Resort & Spa. Accommodations were provided by Hyatt Regency Saipan. ***(MVA)***

JKPL sets book sale, rummage sale

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library is pleased to announce its upcoming Book Sale and Rummage Sale on Saturday April 19, 2014, from 7am to 12pm. Make extra cash by selling unwanted or unused items. Lots are at $25 for a 10x10 space and $50 for a 10x20 space. Spaces are limited so stop by the library and reserve one today. Fore more information, contact Celina C. Foreman (JKPL outreach coordinator) at 235-7315 or drop by the library. ***(PR)***

CNMI courting Taiwanese visitors

The Marianas Visitors Authority is launching a series of campaigns this year aimed at doubling the number of Taiwanese travelers to the Northern Mariana Islands.

About 500 Taiwanese citizens visited the United States commonwealth in the Western Pacific last year, said Eileen Chen, marketing executive at the authority's Taiwan Representative Office, on Friday.

The office, which opened last October, has set a goal of restoring Taiwanese arrivals to the islands to the levels seen in the 1990s, when around 10,000 Taiwan passport holders would visit annually.

The number has plummeted over the past decade, which the MVA attributed to the 2007 closing of the Marianas representative office in Taiwan.

These days, Taiwan is among the smallest sources of tourists in East Asia for the islands, falling behind China, South Korea, and Japan.

But Chen said that the commonwealth's relative obscurity is also one of its attractions. The Northern Marianas could be a good option for someone looking for an island retreat less traveled than popular hot spots like Guam and the Maldives, she advised.

One angle is playing up the islands as a romantic destination, as the MVA is seeking to do with a campaign that offers a romantic trip to the island of Tinian around Qixi Festival, also known as Chinese Valentine's Day.

Earlier this year, the islands launched an "intern program" that paid one lucky winner NT$60,000 (US$2,000) to travel around the islands for a week and receive training as a tour guide.

Chen said her office also hopes that direct flight services could be established between Taiwan and the islands. Currently, Taiwanese travelers have to transfer in Seoul, South Korea, the opposite direction of the islands that sit some 2,700 kilometers southeast of Taiwan. ***(wantchinatimes.com)***

OSHA to do random checks on retailers in the Pacific

HONOLULU–The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration is launching a local emphasis program to prevent retail sector injuries and fatalities in Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

"We are not in the business of waiting to act only after a preventable injury or fatality occurs. Retail employers and workers need to be aware of hazards and risks commonly found in this industry," said Mike Rivera, acting area director of OSHA's Honolulu Area Office. "Stores must be safe for customers to shop and for employees to work."

The retail industry experienced 262 fatal occupational injuries in 2012. The injury and illness case rate for retail workers, including in the Pacific, was four per 100 full-time workers, compared with a 3.4 rate for all other private sector employees during the same period.

OSHA will conduct inspections to identify and evaluate hazards within the retail industry in Hawaii and the Pacific islands and territories. Targeted operation sites, such as clothing stores, department stores, general merchandise stores and other miscellaneous retailers, can expect random inspections. OSHA also will respond to complaints, referrals and fatalities related to retail operations.

Federal OSHA inspections at retail stores in the Pacific routinely find numerous safety or health hazards that result in serious violations. Cited safety and health violations generally relate to electrical hazards, unsafe merchandise handling, transportation hazards, fire hazards, exposure to harmful substances, or improper design, construction and maintenance of exit routes. Violations also relate to hazards that, if left unchecked, can lead to falls, slips and trips, struck-by objects or amputations.

Employers and employees with questions regarding workplace safety and health standards may call OSHA's Honolulu Area Office at 808-541-2680. Small businesses may request free assistance from the Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health Consultation Program at 808-586-9100, or by email at dlir.hiosh@hawaii.gov. ***(USDOL)***

Hyatt, MINA join hands for tree planting on Earth Day

Hyatt Regency Saipan, through its corporate responsibility platform Hyatt Thrive, and Mariana Islands Nature Alliance will partner up with guests, associates, and the community to preserve the environment on Earth Day this coming April 22.

Hyatt and MINA will aid in the nurturing of the Laolao Bay watershed area, one of the three priority watersheds in the CNMI, with tree planting activities.

"Taking part in this initiative will confirm our hotel's support for the long-term conservation of the local environment," Hyatt general manager Nick Nishikawa said.

Hyatt and MINA said that planting trees is essential for the conservation of the local environment.

"Trees are one of many important resources that hold the island's ecosystem together. Without trees, other fragile natural resources such as water, wildlife and living organisms would be affected," said CNMI state forester Victor Deleon Guerrero.

Guerrero also said that trees filter pollution from the air, help recycle water, create shade, make homes for animals, and provide food for humans and wildlife and much more.

"Our forests are extremely important in helping maintain good water quality and preventing soil and nutrients from washing into our lagoon. This helps our reefs healthy and alive," he said.

Guerrero noted that native trees and plants have adapted to the limestone forest ecosystem and are able to tolerate harsh conditions such as droughts and floods and have a symbiotic relationship with other local tree species.

Anyone who wants to join the tree planting is required to register. Forms are available at Hyatt's Human Resource office. It is open Monday to Friday, from 9am to 5pm.

Light meal bags will be provided, together with gloves and trees for planting. Volunteers are also advised to wear comfortable trekking and walking shoes appropriate for outdoor activity.

Hyatt and MINA are also advising the public to apply insect repellant and sunblock for skin protection.

Every April, Hyatt hotels around the world confirm their commitment to a higher purpose in life by giving back something to their communities.

Hyatt and MINA would like to thank their event partners, the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, Laolao Bay Watershed Pride Campaign, and CNMI Forestry for making the upcoming event possible. ***(Jayson Camacho)***

Xiong's Family, Inc.

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Assistant Manager
5 years experience in recycling center business. Must fulfill job assignment from Managers. Chinese speaking preferred.

(3) Forklift Operator
Must have a training certification from OSHA. 3 years experience in recycling center business. Chinese speaking preferred.

(1) Cashier
3 years experience in recycling center business.

Interested applicants please send resume to P.O. Box 503616, Saipan, MP 96950.
Tel.: 323-0362

DELTA MANAGEMENT CORPORATION-SAIPAN

Has an opening for
Cashiers and Pump Attendants

- We are looking for energetic people who are friendly, smiling, dependable, and desires to be a team player to work as Customer Service Representatives.
- Successful candidates must be able to demonstrate effective: People skills . Communication skills. English and Math Skills.
- Reliable transportation is required. Must be punctual
- Must be willing to learn new skills & follow instructions
- Must be able to work a flexible schedule; including Sundays and Holidays.
- Sales or Customer Service background helpful
- A High School Diploma or GED required.
- On island references & police clearance required

Applications are available @ Shell Highway Express Gualo Rai (beside First Hawaiian Bank)

Delta Management is an Equal Opportunity Employer

G4S

Job Vacancy Announcement

Technician (1)
Technician Supervisor (1)
Administrative Assistant (1)

Submit applications, police clearance, and copy of certification to our office
Apply: Rm. 3D, 3rd Floor, TSL Building, Garapan.
Police Clearance & Certification required with application
www.g4s.mp

EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY: G4S is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Employer and observes all federal employment opportunity regulations, practices and policies. Federal Law requires presentation of proof of identity and eligibility to work in the United States. We comply with this law on a nondiscriminatory basis. Must be 18 years or older and must be able to speak, read and write English. Open to all qualified U.S. Workers without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex citizenship and is in compliance with Title II of the Genetics Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA). This job is open to all U.S. Veterans, Persons with Disabilities and Women In Non-traditional occupations that are qualified, willing, able and available to perform the job.

Job Vacancy Announcement

ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY INC.

(01) NURSE SUPERVISOR
- Must pass NCLEX-RN and current CNMI RN License
- Attended a hemodialysis training program and management of hemodialysis inpatient and outpatient care
- At least four years hemodialysis experience and plus three years as a charge nurse in dialysis
- Certified Nephrology Nurse (CNN)-Preferred
- In-service train with Baxter phoenix machine.
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- English Language Skills-Proficient in verbal, written and comprehension
- Must hold a Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Must be flexible with time schedule.

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up an application at St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc., at Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application will be on 04/25/2014 at 4:00 pm. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2903 ext. 124.

FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

is inviting qualified U.S. Citizens to apply for the following vacant positions

(1) Butcher: Cut, trim or prepare consumer sized portions of meat for use in the Resort's restaurant outlets.
Qualification Requirements: High School graduate or equivalent. One (1) year previous work-related skill, knowledge, or experience as a butcher is required. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including week-ends and holidays.

(1) Steward Supervisor: Supervises stewarding staff in accordance with the Resort's policies and procedures ensuring they are implemented consistently leading to guest satisfaction.
Qualification Requirements: 3 years experience in stewarding; 1 year stewarding supervisor experience. Must be able to work long hours and handle pressure. Have strong knowledge on Health and procedure and implementation.

(2) Cooks: Prepare culinary delights to the Resort's guests ensuring guests' satisfaction in all of the Resort's restaurant outlets.
Qualification Requirements: 2 years experience as a cook in a high volume restaurant or hotel. Must have problem solving abilities, be self-motivated and organized. Must be able to work nights, weekends and holidays.

(1) Director of Rooms: Responsible for ensuring the smooth operation of guest services, sports & recreation, spa, security, engineering and housekeeping , establishing the highest standard of guest satisfaction.
Qualification Requirements: 3-5 years experience in a comparable position in a luxury hotel operation. Excellent guest service and resolution skills. Strong knowledge of all aspects of Rooms Division operations; strong organizational and administrative skills; the flexibility to meet the demands of a 24 hour operation; and the ability to work comprehensively with spreadsheets and budgeting packages.

Applications may be obtained and submitted to our Security Office located on the South Wing of Fiesta Resort & Spa. Dead-line for submission of applications is April 25, 2014 to be considered.

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer

NAKED FISH CAFE

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

LINE COOK (1)

Applicants must have thorough knowledge on preparation, seasoning and cooking dishes such as soups, fish, meats, vegetables, desserts, or other foods in restaurant. Inspect and clean food preparation area to ensure safe and sanitary food-handling practices. Check the quality of raw or cook food products to ensure the restaurant standards are met. Must know how to portion, arrange and garnish food, or how food should be presented to customers. Analyze recipes to assign prices on menu items, based on food, labor, and overhead costs. Prepare and cook food of all types, either on a regular basis or for special guests or functions.

Interested applicants may submit resume' or pick up an employment application form at Team Advance Group/Naked Fish Office located at Unit#6 JCT Bldg.II (next to Isla Financial or Hon. Kilili Sablan's office), Joeten Susupe Shopping Center.

Legislative Bureau
NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586, SAIPAN, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Examination Announcement Number: LB-JVA-14-004 **Position: Legislative Assistant**
PL-UNGRADED: $1,148.36 B/W **Opening Date: April 11, 2014**
The salary will be determined by the qualification of the appointee **Closing Date: April 30, 2014**
Location: Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan

General Duties:
- Drafts legislative documents including but not limited to resolutions, committee reports, and letters, as requested by the Chairperson of the Committee to which he or she is assigned to;
- Attends legislative session and committee meetings as requested by the Chairperson of his or her assigned committee;
- Performs investigative and legislative research and analysis;
- Prepares reports and studies including preparation of letters, legislation, and related documents as requested by members of his or her assigned respective legislative house;
- Maintains a reasonable record of all tasks assigned by his or her immediate supervisor Chairperson of the Committee or other members of his or her assigned respective legislative house and such record is subject to review upon request; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Requirements:

- **Possess four years relevant work experience or a minimum of an AA or AS degree or higher from a United States accredited institution of higher education with one year of legislative work experience;**
- **Possess ample knowledge of the legislative process;**
- **Excellent research, analytical, and strong writing skills; and**
- **Ability to produce results within limited time frames and work under pressure on a daily basis.**

Education requirements may be substituted with related experience

Education and training claimed under item 19(A) through 19(F) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by a copy of an official diploma and/or certificate. **Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. All applicants may be subject to further interviews and examinations(i.e. writing assignment) to determine qualification.**

Employment application may be accessed at www.cnmileg.gov.mp or may be picked up at the Office of the Director of the Legislative Bureau located at the Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan. Completed application and police clearance may be submitted to the Office of the Director or may be mailed to the Office of the Director; Legislative Bureau; P.O. Box 500586; Saipan, MP 96950. No telephone inquiries.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXIV, Issue No. 75

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

China's Tibet conundrum: how to conquer a myth

By STEFAN HALPER and LEZLEE BROWN HALPER
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Beijing has no shortage of issues to confront. There's the South China Sea, uncontrollable corruption, a slowing economy and factional disputes within the party and military. But Chinese officials also face one of the most difficult challenges in modern statecraft: how to conquer a myth.

Despite China's attempts to dislodge its mythic appeal, Tibet as Shangri-La seems firmly set in the world's imagination. The once-independent nation, set high on a broad plateau adjacent to the Himalayas, is a worldwide symbol of mystery, aspiration, spirituality and possibility. World leaders remain eager to meet with its exiled spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, who can fill auditoriums anywhere he travels. And when people around the world picture a sacred landscape, it is likely to be Tibet that comes to mind.

This was not what Mao Tse-tung envisioned when he sent his People's Liberation Army to invade Tibet in 1950. He knew the move posed a complex political and military challenge, but he hoped a quick success would secure the tiny nation for China before the West could rise to support any Tibetan resistance.

Yet today, some six decades after the area was conquered, and after many years of efforts by Beijing to repopulate the area with ethnic Chinese, Tibet remains un-won. And China, usually so adroit at avoiding diplomatic reversals, has drawn global condemnation for its policies in Tibet, even while so little progress is made there.

The People's Liberation Army occupation grinds on, and the world watches as Chinese soldiers patrol Lhasa's streets with fire extinguishers, ready to douse self-immolators protesting Beijing's rule.

In Beijing, tour operators sell tickets to Tibetan Buddhism's most sacred religious sites as though they are part of an amusement park. At the Jokong Temple, for example, pilgrims still come from great distances to prostrate themselves each morning along the six-tenths-of-a-mile-long stone path around the temple. But Chinese tourists come too, dutifully having their tickets stamped at each stop on their Tibetan tours as they gawk at the ancient rituals. This booming tourist industry steadily drains the gravitas from Tibet's deep socio-religious rhythms, but it hasn't yet killed them.

Beijing has poured billions of dollars money into Tibet in an attempt to shift attention from its systematic deconstruction of Tibetan culture. Though the Dalai Lama's likeness cannot be displayed and other cultural expressions have been banned, roads and rail services have been improved. Hot water is now commonplace, and housing and schools have been modernized in the larger cities where most of the Han Chinese live. Naturally, these rapid changes have introduced tension within Tibetan society, as some seek to benefit from the "opportunities" Beijing presents—business licenses, municipal jobs, etc.—while others in villages across Tibet struggle to limit the erosion of their heritage.

Tibetan resistance to Han culture has been paralleled over the last half a century by a deep sympathy in the West for traditional Tibet. This has introduced a new and different dimension to China's Tibet problem. Western infatuation with the Tibetan myth has enabled Tibetans to exercise a unique "soft power"—the power of moral condemnation—that Beijing can neither control nor ameliorate. It is a soft power that has raised profound ques-

See CHINA'S on Next Page

Our immigration prejudices and the spirit of 'St. Louis'

By CHRISTINE M. FLOWERS
Philadelphia Daily News

Christine M. Flowers is a lawyer and columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News. *Readers may send her email at cflowers1961@gmail.com.*

Jeb Bush made some very provocative comments about immigration the other day. They were red meat for a conservative base that thinks in broad brushstrokes about foreigners. Actually, they were more like a bullfighter's red cape, or scarlet blood in the water.

Commenting on the wave of illegal bodies present in our country, this brother of one compassionate conservative president and son of another observed: "The way I look at this is someone who comes to our country because they couldn't come legally, they come to our country because their families—the dad who loved their children—was worried that their children didn't have food on the table. ... They broke the law, but it's not a felony. It's an act of love. It's an act of commitment to your family."

Frankly, those observations were a little too Jean Valjean for me. It is a simplification to say that everyone who crosses the border does so to provide a better life for his children (unless you believe that drug traffickers are also loving parents). But on the whole, Bush is absolutely right: The men and women who take a short-cut around the legal process generally do so for the most basic of reasons—desperation.

That doesn't mean we should just throw up our hands and let the floodgates open. Of course there needs to be order and, as the great Charles Krauthammer said, Americans have a right to decide who comes in and out of the country.

But this brings me to another point about the whole immigration debate. There is a mean-spiritedness that infects the discussion and keeps us from arriving at an equitable result. We don't need the saccharine comments of a presidential hopeful, but neither do we need the vitriol spewed by some of the anti-immigrant groups who equate "the other" with disease, crime and a "brownification" of society.

I think we need to take a step back for a moment and understand the animating principles that define this country and undergird all the great religions. And, then, we need to remember a time when those principles, among them compassion, were horrifically rejected. I hope we can take some philosophical lessons from that tragedy.

Earlier this week, I listened to a radio interview with a man whose grandfather and uncle had been murdered in the Holocaust. The most wrenching part of the story was the fact that they could have been saved had it not been for politics and politicians. In 1939, a group of German Jews attempted to flee the Nazi regime on an ocean liner called the "St. Louis." They sought admission at numerous ports, including the United States and Canada. Fearing the political repercussions, FDR refused to allow the passengers to disembark and, after having the door closed in their faces during a three week "voyage of the damned," the ship returned to Europe. Not surprisingly, the majority of the passengers ended up dying in concentration camps.

We obviously can't analogize the cross-border journey of a Mexican to the desperate flight from Hitler. The comparison is as ridiculous as Bush's comments about loving parents: too gross, too broadly aimed, too discordant and polemical. But it's legitimate to point out the similarity in the way that Americans have come to approach the issue of immigration, one that echoes the "not in my backyard" anxiety of 75 years ago.

Realistically, we cannot open our arms in a universal embrace. Emma Lazarus was a great poet, but she would have failed miserably as a diplomat. In a world of limited resources, we have to do human triage. I spent four hours the other day in front of an immigration judge trying to convince him that the deep scars on my client's face and the shadow in his eyes had earned him a grant of asylum. The judge had the difficult job of deciding whether to believe his story and, even if credible, whether the tales of beatings and threats warranted a refugee's welcome. It's not an easy calculus to make, and I'm not one to second-guess judges or, for that matter, crippled wartime presidents.

Still, it does put things into a better perspective than any of the talking heads on television, the ones who might never in their lives have met a refugee or who think that turnstiles at the border are feasible.

When Bush started talking about the "loving" father, I knew he was firing the opening salvo for 2016. He might be sincere, but his timing leads me to believe that there's a lot more politics in his comments than principle. And that's OK, since even the most revered among us, the ones with our names engraved in marble and on coinage, are capable of selling our souls for a few votes.

But it would still be good for conservatives to soften the sharp edges of their tongues. And it would be good for liberals to remember that it was one of their own who padlocked the Golden Door.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Long waltz with bankruptcy

By JOHN DELROSARIO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

Ever get the disorienting anxiety that something bad is going to happen, though you can't put your finger on it? It's a very troubling feeling, right? About your only option is to wait out the devastating tide of fear to hit full measure!

For most retirees and working folks, you can expect power bills to increase before year's end, including several spikes next year. This and health premiums have found some comfortable place in family pocketbooks eating everything away like some deadly virus.

Definitely, they have and would continue to heavily reduce family buying power of basic needs while wages and salaries have remained the same (stagnant) for more than 10 years.

Lack of policy on energy

There's the obvious lack of a major policy on energy (renewable energy) designed to lessen the cost of power bills in the short- and long-term. The lack of a common goal or synergistic approach to this issue makes it no better than driftwood out in the open waters.

Sad that a fully equipped energy firm is ready to offer realistic solution to ease the spiraling cost of this expense that consistently floors all consumers but policymakers on both side of the street have taken long snoozes on the switchboard as to ignore the very means to help power consumers on Saipan, Tinian and Rota with affordable power rates.

Moreover, CUC could hardly pay the $64 million in court stipulated fines. So where would the agency secure funds to fix the manually operated system that doesn't allow for inclusion of renewable energy into the grid? Would a useless feasibility study ease this hardship against consumers anytime soon?

Furthermore, it has had difficulty collecting from a bankrupt government some $21 million in utility bills owed. Recalled DPL giving CUC, through MPLT, some $3.5 million to fix the system lest Saipan was headed into very stormy blackouts. It goes to show that CUC isn't fiscally sound.

Aren't these islands earthquake prone? This natural phenomenon threatens embracing geo-thermal energy, doesn't it? Isn't it true that cloud cover constantly moves over the islands making the steady flow of sunlight problematic for solar power? In either case, it presents a dilemma when dealing with securing affordable power generation system. Now we must place total reliance on the new CPUC board members for some real time leadership!

A realistic solution by GGS

Green Global Solutions is prepared to offer the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. a "service contract" to take over the power system. It would bring in an initial investment of some $300 million to begin building renewable energy systems that would eventually reduce the cost of power to far cheaper levels than what consumers pay today.

The people of the CNMI won't participate in the repayment of its investment of some $300 million. Consumers would only continue buying power from CUC at a reduced rate. Hopefully, when the system connects renewable energy to the grid and is further refined, consumers can look forward with confidence that they have a power system that is reliable, stable, and affordable.

GGS is part of a multinational business firm associated with real manufacturers and technical experts on renewable energy such as wind turbine. It plans to approach the issue with the combined use of wind energy, photovoltaic, battery system, and fossil fuel to ensure reliability and stability of the system.

Its project would eventually allow CUC some appreciable savings to use on other needs like water improvement. GGS would ensure power generation for current and future needs of the islands. Consumers on all inhabited islands would be paying far less than their current power bills.

Could politicians bypass their myopic views to embrace what's good for the people they represent in our governmental institutions? Or do we need to storm Capital Hill to instill our dire need for assistance on an issue that has robbed families of direly needed nickels and dimes for their needs?

Health premiums will increase

Cost of health insurance policy would definitely increase. This would be triggered by the contraction of Fund membership—when DB and DC members finally exit—their share of the cost transferred to retirees to pay through the nose.

This abysmally egregious expense destined to bleed family pocketbooks would send households clamoring for answers from the "fools on the hill" (Capital Hill). They have done nothing of significance to pull us out of the cesspool of negligence and misery. And they're singing, "O' when the saints" dangling their "Cast-It-Now" (casino) law. No mas!

Miscreants as evil geniuses

Are policymakers incapable of conceptualizing an issue in order to understand it thoroughly with common decency? Why would anyone don the role of the "blind, mute and deaf" on an issue that requires due diligence in order to ensure protection of the future of our children?

It is said that the future is now. Is this your best offer—the eventual and permanent corruption of the NMI, derailed completely from thoughtful planning of its future?

How I wish there's a gear in development where we could instantly reverse position when our quick fixes fail. But such isn't the process in the normal course of events. When our designs are prepped for failure we would fail, true? Why work on failure as though it's the latest tool in business management? Dios mihu, dalai `ste!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

On with the new, dump the old

CUC officials mentioned that the present power capacity is at 5 megawatts but the peak consumption need is 35 megawatts. They also mentioned that we have an overcapacity of roughly 30 megawatts. I admit that I am not an expert in the field but it does raise several questions.

First, why not simply turn on the needed generators that will satisfy the peak requirement for the 35 megawatts and have the remaining 30 megawatts as standby units? Secondly, why not move forward in the implementation of the net metering policies to further reduce the need for CUC to maintain the 35 megawatts that depend on dirty fuel? Third, why not focus on clean energy through a build-operate-transfer approach from clean energy investors.

We have to admit that we need to change and we need to think green. All focus right now by CUC officials is the status quo, which will not be in the best interest of the community it is serving. Think about it. If the entire community is encouraged to produce electricity through net metering and other tax incentives, the need for CUC to burn dirty fuel will be reduced. Further, if CUC will buy electricity through build-operate-transfer deals with companies that can put up green energy, the existing power plants can perhaps be used as standby generators.

Some believe that we cannot totally move away from dirty fuel but there are models all over the world that proves that belief wrong. Simply think harder and look deeper. Who would have thought back in the '70s when Star Trek was out to figure that communication from the ground to a space ship is possible? Today not only can you communicate with anyone around the world but you can also see them in real time. So people, open you eyes and simply think that yes, there is a possibility. Let's move forward with the new and dump the old. Get rid of people that want to keep the junk running. Remember that in many of the states, part of the incentives to turn green was to junk the old cars for new ones through tax rebate. Let's move forward.

Frank M. Atalig
Sinapalo I, Rota

Unanswered question

Last month, your newspaper was kind enough to publish my letter concerning the Retirement Program. I asked Sen. Ray Yumul to explain why he authored Public Law 15-15 that stopped the government/employer contribution to the Retirement Fund, which led to the 25-percent cut in the pension of our retirees. He never responded, which is very disappointing.

However, there were other sponsors of the legislation. Then-speaker Oscar M. Babauta was one. So, this time I want to ask him the same question I asked Sen. Yumul in my March 17, 2014, letter to the editor. Like Sen. Yumul, because of your action Rep. Babauta, our retirees are suffering.

As with Sen. Yumul, don't you think the retirees deserve an explanation? The bill was never referred to a committee, no public hearing held, and there was no committee report prepared. Not a single retiree was asked how they felt about it. Had there been a committee report it would probably contain answers to my questions so that I don't have to be writing these letters. Like all the retirees, all I want is an explanation.

My question is simple. Why did you and Sen. Yumul sponsor this bill and voted to stop the employer contribution to the Retirement Fund? I am a very simple person, so please make me understand in simple plain English why.

If I don't hear from you, I will be writing to everyone who voted for the bill hoping one of you steps forward with an explanation.

Edward Manibusan San Nicolas (Luvurts)
Kagman, Saipan

Thank you

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands would like to thank all sponsors of the 2nd Annual HANMI Go-Kart Championship.

HANMI would like to particularly thank title sponsor Marpac (Budweiser), major sponsor Mobil, event sponsors Delta and G4S, and supporting sponsors Pacific Trading, Coca Cola, *Marianas Variety*, and Pacifica Insurance. Other sponsors are Mariana Resort & Spa, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Century Hotel, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Saipan World Resort, Hafa Adai Beach Hotel, Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino, McDonald's Saipan, 360 Revolving Restaurant, National Office Supply, Island Apparel, Pacific Subsea Saipan, and Tropical Laundry.

Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands

CHINA'S

From Page 10

tions about the values that inform Chinese society and governance. Most vexing for Beijing, it has slowed China's progress on the world stage.

Global condemnation of China's destruction of Tibetan culture is nearly universal. Events such as the 2008 riots in Lhasa during the Olympics and the horrifying self-immolations, of which there have been 126 since 2009 (four so far this year), are often reported on the front pages of newspapers. And the stories nearly always depict the Chinese occupation as cruel and repressive.

This is particularly problematic at a time when the Chinese leadership is trying to emphasize to the world its progressive values, reforms and respect for the rule of law. Just as China seeks a leadership role in the World Bank, the International Criminal Court and the World Trade Organization, its prospects are clouded by the moral stain of its rule in Tibet.

Since neither China nor Tibet benefit from the current policies, it is time for Beijing leaders to take a new look at Tibet.

China's "one country, two systems" template, though imperfect, has worked in Hong Kong. Why not extend a version of it to Tibet, granting Tibetans greater control over their domestic governance along with greater freedom of religion? China's sovereign control of the territory, especially with regard to defense and foreign policy, would remain in place, and legal safeguards and dispute resolution mechanisms could be instituted to ensure the rights and safety of both Han Chinese and Tibetans. Even the Dalai Lama, who has called for a Tibet with greater local autonomy, is not seeking full independence for Tibet.

One impetus for Beijing to consider such an option is that when the current Dalai Lama dies (he is now 78), the Tibetan leadership is likely to become more radical and confrontational. If that were to happen, China's policies might become more repressive, which would in turn enhance Tibet's soft power and cause global opinion to turn even more negative toward Beijing. Alternatively, if China were to grant Tibet greater autonomy, China would be applauded for finding a rational solution to a difficult problem.

Stefan Halper is director of American studies in the Department of Politics and International Studies at the University of Cambridge. Lezlee Brown Halper is a research associate at Corpus Christie College, Cambridge. They are the authors of Tibet: An Unfinished Story. *They wrote this for the* Los Angeles Times.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

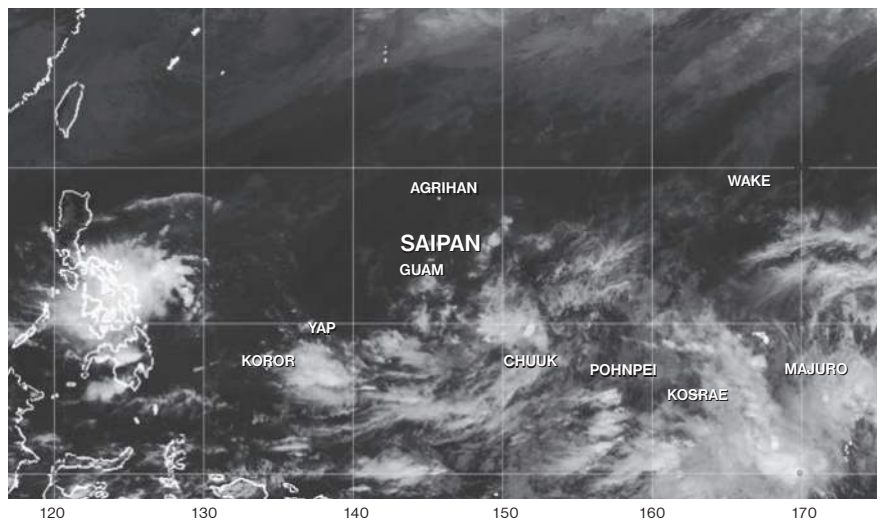
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲85	▼78
Palau	Showers	▲87	▼77
Yap	Showers	▲88	▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼79
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼77
Kosrae	Showers	▲87	▼77
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Thundershowers	▲69	▼63
Beijing	Showers	▲71	▼52
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲77	▼69
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼72
London	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼42
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲76	▼57
Manila	Cloudy	▲86	▼78
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲74	▼55
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼73
New York	Windy	▲51	▼35
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼59
Paris	Sunny	▲67	▼47
Pusan	Rain	▲62	▼55
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼46
Salem	Showers	▲61	▼45
San Francisco	Sunny	▲65	▼53
Seoul	Rain	▲68	▼49
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲71	▼59
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲53	▼36

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2014
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front runs southwestward from 25N146E to beyond 130E at 18N. Low clouds and patchy showers are found along and up to 160 miles northwest of this boundary. An old frontal boundary extends southwestward from 25N152E to 18N140E and continues as a shear line to beyond 130E at 12N. Low clouds and patchy showers are seen along and up to 120 miles northwest of this feature. A near-equatorial trough stretches eastward from 10N130E to a weak circulation centered just northwest of Chuuk near 9N150E then turns east-southeastward to end south of Majuro at EQ172E. Extensive cloudiness is found over much of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands between the equator and 12N from 150E to the date line while numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are present mainly north of Chuuk between 14N and 7N from 147E to 157E. Similar weather is found over portions of Pohnpei and Kosrae states between 6N and the equator from 150E to 170E. A small cluster of showers exists near Koror within 100 miles of a line from 8N132E to 8N138E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms just east of Majuro within 150 miles of a line from 7N171E to 6N180.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

3:20 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet
8:51 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
3:39 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
10:04 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:03 AM	6:32 PM
Thursday	6:02 AM	6:32 PM
Friday	6:01 AM	6:32 PM
Saturday	6:01 AM	6:32 PM
Sunday	6:00 AM	6:32 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:25 PM	6:29 AM
Thursday	8:21 PM	7:16 AM
Friday	9:19 PM	8:08 AM
Saturday	10:16 PM	9:02 AM
Sunday	11:13 PM	9:59 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 2, 2014

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	6:55pm	8:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA5038	7:45pm	8:35pm	2, 6
UA5078	8:10pm	9:00pm	3

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5038	5:35pm	6:10pm	2, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5038	6:40pm	7:15pm	2, 6

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:45am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:30pm	7:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	4:00am	8:00am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11: 05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	3, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/473	6:05am	10:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM
UA5078/179	3:10pm	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5038	5:35pm	7:15pm	2, 6 via Rota
UA5077	6:50pm	7:40pm	3

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	6:55pm	7:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	8:00pm	8:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	7:20pm	3:00am+1	4, 7

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

DL172/288	7:45am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5039	9:55am	6:25pm	7 via Guam
UA190/5038	9:55am	7:15pm	6 via Rota-Guam
UA190/5077	9:55am	7:40pm	3 via Guam
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via Guam
UA184/5038	10:25pm	7:15pm+1	1 via Rota-Guam
UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via Guam
UA184/5038	11:30pm	7:15pm+1	5 via Rota-Guam

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways; ORB: OREN AIR.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

Students at Chacha Oceanview Jr. High give an enthusiastic WAVE (Welcome All Visitors Enthusiastically) during a presentation of Marianas Tourism Education Council in March 2014. Also pictured is Marianas Visitors Authority Community Projects Specialist Charlene Mendoza (far left).

MTEC: Planting the seed

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A student of Hopwood Jr. High participates in a quiz by the Marianas Tourism Education Council in 2014. Hopwood Jr. High has the largest MY WAVE (Marianas Youth Welcome All Visitors Enthusiastically) Club in the Northern Mariana Islands.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A student of Chacha Oceanview Middle School wins a Saipan-da backpack for correctly answering a question about tourism during Marianas Tourism Education Council's presentation at the school in March 2014.

The Marianas Tourism Education Council recently wrapped up its annual school presentations with presentations at Marianas High, Hopwood Jr. High, and Chacha Oceanview Jr. High.

Along with the Marianas Visitors Authority, MTEC presented to Marianas High Hospitality and Tourism Class.

"Your team further opened our students' eyes to the exciting H&T industry," class instructor Tyce Mister shared with MTEC chair Vicky Benavente following the presentation. "There are a lot of opportunities now and in the future in this industry for friendly and hard-working people in our community."

MTEC also presented to another Marianas High class, whose instructor, Jocelyn Itibus said, "Although many of us are familiar with tourism being 'everyone's business,' not many are aware of just how important tourism is, the work behind it, or how they can play a part."

Itibus added, "The MTEC presentation did all that and more and left my students with a valuable impression I'm sure they'll take with them. Immediately after the presentation, I overheard a group of students talking about what new ideas they have in mind to make people want to visit…I believe it's presentations like these that plant the seed for future leaders in the business."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Students of Marianas High School win prizes by demonstrating their knowledge of the tourism industry during the presentation of the Marianas Tourism Education Council at the school in 2014.

MTEC spoke with the AP Math class of Chacha Oceanview Middle School, sharing the importance of the tourism industry and dialoguing with students about their future career aspirations.

"We are fortunate to have MTEC and the MVA as partners in promoting tourism in our school and in the community," said school principal Vince Dela Cruz. "The tourism industry has a lot to offer to our students, such as careers and recreation."

MTEC also presented at Hopwood Jr. High, which has the largest MY WAVE (Marianas Youth Welcome All Visitors Enthusiastically) Club in the Northern Mariana Islands.

"Kids at this age are so enthusiastic about new things!" said club adviser Jenn Castro. "We should capitalize on this energy and continue to educate them on the CNMI's No. 1 industry. They can make a difference!"

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A student of Hopwood Jr. High wins a Saipan-da backpack from the Marianas Tourism Education Council for detailing the benefits of the tourism industry to the Northern Mariana Islands.

This school year MTEC presented to 19 public schools on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

"I couldn't have done this program without the support of the MVA team, our MTEC board of directors, and the numerous businessmen and women who contributed their time and expertise," said MTEC chair Benavente. "We are confident our continued efforts will help get more young people thinking about working in the industry and—most importantly—just sharing our warm island hospitality with visitors."

MTEC is a non-profit organization aimed at educating the Northern Marianas community about the importance of the tourism industry. For more information about joining or contributing to MTEC, contact MVA Community Projects manager Martin Duenas at mduenas@mymarianas.com or (670) 664-3210. ***(MTEC)***

Guam service members volunteer for Special Olympics

DEDEDO, Guam—Dozens of sailors and airmen volunteered to coach and show support for disabled athletes during the 38th Annual Special Olympics Guam Track and Field event at Okkodo High School in Dededo on April 12.

Service members kept score and recorded time for activities such as the long-jump, 50-meter run, and softball throw stations during the event, which offered the opportunity for participants to showcase their athleticism.

"I like being out here, helping out the kids," said Construction Mechanic 3rd Class (SCW) Michael Thompson, of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 1. "It's kind of surreal being here in Guam at a big event like this. I've never been to something this massive, but it's a big pleasure for me to be here."

Hundreds of children and adults with physical or mental disabilities participated while thousands of island residents braved the heat to spectate or lend a helping hand.

JESSE LEON GUERRERO

Information Systems Technician 1st Class (IDW/SW) Wade Wilcox, of Naval Computer Telecommunications Station Guam, carries a ceremonial torch as he leads a team of runners along Route 3 on their way to the 38th Annual Special Olympics Guam Track and Field event at Okkodo High School in Dededo on April 12.

Special Olympics Guam president Frank Florig said each athlete receives a medal for their performance, but the event is focused on boosting their confidence, building friendships and giving them a chance to accomplish something big. Every year the military partners with local sponsors and volunteers to make all of that possible.

"They volunteer their time, their equipment and resources," Florig said. "Without our military neighbors and our military community, it would be far-fetched for us to hold something as successful as this."

2nd Lt. John Karpis, of the 644th Combat Communications Squadron, said the event was a great opportunity for the Air Force and Navy to be a positive presence in the community.

"This is my first time doing it and it's such a great event," he said. "It's so inspiring. I think I'll be out here next year, absolutely." ***(Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office)***

JESSE LEON GUERRERO

Family members and friends from Andersen Middle School show their support and represent their school during the 38th Annual Special Olympics Guam Track and Field event at Okkodo High School in Dededo on April 12.

JESSE LEON GUERRERO

Aviation Electronics Technician 1st Class (AW/SW) Dan Douglas, of Naval Airborne Weapons Maintenance Unit 1, left, keeps score at the standing long jump station during the 38th Annual Special Olympics Guam Track and Field event at Okkodo High School in Dededo

JESSE LEON GUERRERO

Construction Mechanic 2nd Class Jamie Allen, right, and Construction Mechanic 3rd Class (SCW) Michael Thompson, of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 1, congratulate Joe Leon Guerrero and his son who competed in the static long jump during the 38th Annual Special Olympics Guam Track and Field event at Okkodo High School in Dededo on April 12.

JESSE LEON GUERRERO

Airman 1st Class Deandre Knight, of 36th Communications Squadron, gives instructions to an athlete at the softball throw station during the 38th Annual Special Olympics Guam Track and Field event at Okkodo High School in Dededo on April 12.

JESSE LEON GUERRERO

Master-at-Arms Seaman Emilee Enos, of Coastal Riverine Group 1 Det. Guam, keeps score for an athlete at the softball throw station during the 38th Annual Special Olympics Guam Track and Field event at Okkodo High School in Dededo on April 12.

Business

EU moves to sanction more Russians over Ukraine

By JOHN-THOR DAHLBURG
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LUXEMBOURG (AP)—European Union foreign ministers decided Monday to sanction more Russians with asset freezes and visa bans as a sign of the trade bloc's outrage over Moscow's ongoing interference in Ukraine, a high-ranking EU official announced.

EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton declined to make public the number or the names of any of the Russian officials or citizens affected. Another European Union official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of a lack of authorization to reveal details, said the decision, adopted unanimously by the trade bloc's 28 foreign ministers, needed to be enshrined in legal documents, and that they will be drafted quickly.

The decision was reached at a meeting of the ministers dominated by the crisis in Ukraine and how the EU should respond, Ashton told a news conference.

"Foreign ministers roundly condemned the illegal armed activity in eastern Ukraine over recent days. We are issuing a very direct call on Russia to publicly repudiate this activity," Irish Foreign Minister Eamon Gilmore said.

Some ministers arrived in Luxembourg talking tough. The coordinated action of armed pro-Russian groups occupying government buildings in eastern Ukraine "is something that is being planned and brought about by Russia," and needs to be met with further sanctions, British Foreign Secretary William Hague said.

Russia has strenuously denied involvement in the escalation of armed violence in eastern Ukraine, but several EU ministers noted events there have echoed what happened in the Crimean Peninsula before Russia unilaterally annexed it.

"The problem is it looks very, very similar to what happened previously in the Crimea. So you know, if it looks like a horse and it walks like a horse, it's usually a horse—and not a zebra," said Frans Timmermans, foreign minister of the Netherlands.

AP

European Union High Representative Catherine Ashton talks with journalists as she arrives for an EU foreign ministers meeting at the EU Council building in Luxembourg, Monday, April 14, 2014.

Like many matters in the European Union, though, levying sanctions requires the unanimous consent of member states. What ministers were able to agree on Monday was a public warning that "any further steps by the Russian Federation to destabilize the situation in Ukraine would lead to additional and far-reaching consequences in a broad reach of economic areas" between EU countries and Russia.

Preparatory work on just what those economic measures could be is proceeding.

On Thursday, Ashton is scheduled to meet in Switzerland with Secretary of State John Kerry and the foreign ministers of Russia and Ukraine. Some EU member country governments will be closely watching the Kremlin delegation's actions to determine whether it's time to move to what, in the trade bloc's jargon, is being called Phase III of sanctions.

"What we need to do is use the meeting in Geneva to start talking about how to de-escalate the situation," Ashton said. "It's absolutely vital we find a suitable way through this that is going to bring peace and stability to the whole country."

Laurent Fabius, France's foreign minister, said that if the four-party talks fail to persuade or force Russia to back off in Ukraine, European Union leaders could meet as early as next week for a snap summit to rev up the sanctions regime.

A total of 33 Russian and pro-Russian Crimean politicians, lawmakers, military leaders and other public figures are currently subject to EU asset freezes and visa bans, said Paul Ivan, an analyst at the Brussels-based European Policy Center, an independent think tank. That's more than covered by similar U.S. measures, but in general the targets of EU sanctions are lower-ranking, and don't include members of Russian President Vladimir Putin's innermost circle or oligarchs who support him, Ivan said.

Sanctioning individuals is the second stage of the graduated measures agreed to by EU leaders last month as the best way to bring about a change in Russian behavior. The first stage consisted of highly symbolic actions, for instance the end of bilateral EU-Russia talks on visa liberalization or, in concert with Washington, revocation of Russian membership in what had been the G-8 group of industrialized countries.

Turn tables on talkative co-worker

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of Secrets to Winning at Office Politics. *Send in questions and get free coaching tips at http://www.yourofficecoach.com, or follow her on Twitter @ officecoach.*

QUESTION: I'm having difficulty with the person who was recently assigned to be my mentor. "Mark" is supposed to help me learn procedures in the research lab where I work as a graduate assistant. Although we get along well, he tends to ask a lot of personal questions.

Every Monday, for example, Mark asks what I did over the weekend. If I mention eating out, he wants to talk about the restaurant. Whenever I wear something new, he asks where I bought it, then makes comments about the store. Sometimes his questions sound like lectures. For instance, he might say, "Do you know how much salt is in those chips?"

This makes me uncomfortable, but since Mark will be grading me on my lab assignment, I don't want to offend him. Do you have any advice?

ANSWER: While some people hate divulging personal information, others view their life as an open book and will happily share almost anything. If you and Mark are at opposite ends of this spectrum, you may have conflicting communication styles. His questions don't sound particularly intrusive or creepy, so he's probably just trying to make conversation.

To evade these inquiries without being rude, you need a conversational escape plan. One simple strategy is to provide a brief answer, then quickly change the subject. For example, when Mark asks what you did on the weekend, just smile and say, "Nothing very interesting." Then introduce a work-related topic before he has time for another question.

A friendlier way to shift the spotlight, though, is to start using questions yourself. On Monday morning, beat Mark to the punch by asking how his weekend went. When shopping or dining is mentioned, inquire about his preferences. Before long, you may discover that these one-way interrogations have become two-way conversations.

Q: My boss keeps mentioning that working through lunch is a good way to get more done. I've told him repeatedly that lunch is very important to me because I'm a diabetic, yet he continues to make these comments. On top of that, he frequently reminds me how many sales I must make in order to offset my salary. This constant badgering is both annoying and stressful. How should I respond to him?

A: Wimpy managers fear giving direct feedback, so they often express their concerns by dropping hints. Since your boss apparently falls into this category, the odds are good that he doesn't really care what you do for lunch. He's just not happy with your productivity.

To curtail these random references, try initiating a conversation about the real issue. For example, "I know that I'm slightly behind on my goals for the year, but I have some thoughts about how to catch up. I would also like to get your ideas. Could we schedule a time to discuss this?"

Draft a step-by-step plan for meeting your goals, then regularly review progress with your boss. Once your sales are back on track, I guarantee that he will be much less interested in your dining habits.

Study shows increase in online information thefts

NEW YORK (AP)—The number of Americans who say they've had important personal information stolen online is on the rise, according to a Pew Research Center report released Monday.

According to the survey conducted in January, 18 percent of online adults have had personal information stolen such as their social security number, credit card or bank account information. That's up from 11 percent in a July 2013 Pew survey.

The number of adults who had an online account compromised or taken over without their permission—such as email or social media—remained flat at 21 percent.

The survey was done after news broke of Target Corp.'s massive pre-Christmas data breach, but well before last week's discovery of the "Heartbleed" bug, which has caused widespread worry across the Internet.

The Target breach resulted in the theft of 40 million debit and credit card numbers, along with the personal information of up to 70 million people. The cost of replacing potentially stolen debit and credit cards has already reached into the tens of millions of dollars.

Other companies including Neiman Marcus and Michael's subsequently reported their own smaller data breaches.

It remains unclear whether hackers have been able to exploit Heartbleed, which went undetected for more than two years, to steal personal information. The bug is caused by a flaw in OpenSSL software, which is used on the Internet to provide security for both websites and networking devices such as routers, switchers and firewalls.

The Pew survey, conducted between Jan. 23 and 26, polled 1,002 adults living in the continental U.S. It has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

Google Glass day

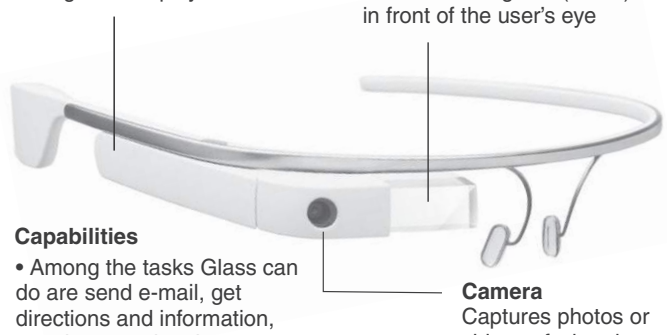
Google has announced that it will hold a one-day sale of its face computer on April 15. A limited supply of Google Glass will be available to U.S. customers for $1,500 via Google's website.

How Google Glass works

The headset that sits above the eyes contains a tiny computer, which enables to wearer to do a variety of tasks by issuing voice commands and tapping/swiping a touchpad

Touchpad
Allows wearer to navigate through the display

Transparent overlay
Appears as a 25-in. (63.5-cm) monitor floating 8 ft. (2.4 m) in front of the user's eye



Capabilities

- Among the tasks Glass can do are send e-mail, get directions and information, translate text the viewer sees
- Variety of apps available for activities varying from cooking to medical procedures
- Popular now among users in industry, the military, health care

Camera
Captures photos or videos of what the wearer sees, which can be shared on Twitter or Facebook

© 2014 MCT

Source: Google, TechLife
Graphic: Los Angeles Times, MCT

Nation

Post, Guardian win Pulitzers for NSA revelations

NEW YORK (AP)—*The Washington Post* and *The Guardian* won the Pulitzer Prize in public service Monday for revealing the U.S. government's sweeping surveillance programs in a blockbuster series of stories based on secret documents supplied by NSA leaker Edward Snowden.

The Pulitzer for breaking news was awarded to *The Boston Globe* for its "exhaustive and empathetic" coverage of the Boston Marathon bombing and the manhunt that followed.

Two of the nation's biggest and most distinguished newspapers, *The Post* and *The New York Times*, won two Pulitzers each, while the other awards were scattered among a variety of publications large and small.

The stories about the National Security Agency's spy programs revealed that the government has systematically collected information about millions of Americans' phone calls and emails in its effort to head off terrorist attacks. The resulting furor led President Barack Obama to impose limits on the surveillance.

The reporting "helped stimulate the very important discussion about the balance between privacy and security, and that discussion is still going on," said Sig Gissler, administrator of the Pulitzer Prizes.

The NSA stories were written by Barton Gellman at *The Washington Post* and Glenn Greenwald, Laura Poitras and Ewen MacAskill, whose work was published by *The Guardian US*, the British newspaper's American operation, based in New York.

"I think this is amazing news," Poitras said. "It's a testament to Snowden's courage, a vindication of his courage and his desire to let the public know what the government is doing."

Snowden, a former contract employee at the NSA, has been charged with espionage and other offenses in the U.S. and could get 30 years in prison if convicted. He has received asylum in Russia.

In a statement issued by the Freedom of the Press Foundation, Snowden saluted "the brave reporters and their colleagues who kept working in the face of extraordinary intimidation, including the forced destruction of journalistic materials, the inappropriate use of terrorism laws, and so many other means of pressure to get them to stop."

Snowden's supporters have likened his disclosures to the release of the Pentagon Papers, the secret Vietnam War history whose publication by *The New York Times* in 1971 won the newspaper a Pulitzer. His critics have branded him a criminal.

"To be rewarding illegal conduct, to be enabling a traitor like Snowden, to me is not something that should be rewarded with a Pulitzer Prize," said Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y. "Snowden has violated his oath. He has put American lives at risk."

At *The Boston Globe*, the newsroom was closed off to outsiders, and staff members marked the announcement of the breaking-news award—coming just a day before the anniversary of the bombing—with a moment of silence for the victims.

"There's nobody in this room who wanted to cover this story. Each and every one of us hopes that nothing like it ever happens again on our watch," *Globe* Editor Brian McGrory told the newsroom.

The bombing last April 15 that killed three people and wounded more than 260 also led to a Pulitzer in the feature photography category for Josh Haner of *The New York Times*, for his photo essay on a blast victim who lost his legs.

AP

Janine Gibson, right, *Guardian U.S.* editor in chief, looks on as Ewan MacAskill, left, and Laura Poitras, center, part of the reporting team that won a Pulitzer Prize for *The Guardian US*, the British newspaper's American operation, chat online with leaker Edward Snowden, Monday April 14, 2014, in New York.

Police: Utah mom admitted to killing her 6 babies

PLEASANT GROVE, Utah (AP)—Megan Huntsman was clear about what she did with six of her newborn babies.

Huntsman, 39, told police she either strangled or suffocated them immediately after they were born. She wrapped their bodies in a towel or a shirt, put them in plastic bags and then packed them inside boxes in the garage of her home south of Salt Lake City.

Huntsman

What's not clear is why. A day after her arrest on charges of killing her six babies, investigators and her neighbors puzzled over the grisly discovery, including how she could have concealed a half-dozen pregnancies over a 10-year period.

"How can you have a baby and not have evidence and other people know?" asked neighbor SanDee Wall. "You can't plan when a baby is going to come. Just the thought of somebody putting a baby into a box is a heartbreaker."

Huntsman, who was arrested Sunday on six counts of murder, was ordered held on $6 million bail—$1 million for each baby. The remains of a seventh baby police found appears to have been stillborn, authorities said.

According to a probable cause statement released by police Monday, Huntsman said she gave birth to at least seven babies between 1996 and 2006 at her former home in Pleasant Grove, a leafy, sleepy town about 35 miles south of Salt Lake City.

All but one of the babies was born alive, she said. During the interview with police, she was unemotional and matter of fact, according to Pleasant Grove police Lt. Britt Smith.

Her estranged husband, Darren West, made the discovery Saturday with fellow family members while cleaning out the garage of the house, which is owned by his parents. He called Huntsman, who admitted to him it was her baby, according to court documents.

West called police, who then found the bodies in the garage.

Investigators believe Huntsman is the mother of them all based on what she has told them but have ordered DNA tests to make sure that's the case. They don't know who the babies' fathers are. It could take weeks to get the results, Utah County Attorney Jeff Buhman said.

Huntsman's three daughters—one teenager and two young adults—also lived in the house.

Investigators believe West and Huntsman were together when the babies were born, but don't believe he was aware of the killings. Buhman said Huntsman is the principle suspect, but didn't rule out more arrests as the investigation continues.

Police have talked with West as they investigate his level of knowledge and involvement in the deaths, Smith said. He was living in the house during the decade that authorities believe Huntsman had killed the babies, Smith said.

Kansas shooting suspect had no record of violence

OVERLAND PARK, Kan. (AP)—Never one to keep his hatred to himself, Frazier Glenn Cross for decades sought out any soapbox to espouse his white-supremacist beliefs, twice running for federal office with campaigns steeped in anti-Semitism.

Yet there's scant evidence the Army veteran and retired trucker with Ku Klux Klan links ever resorted to violence before Sunday, when authorities say he opened fire with a shotgun and pistol outside a Jewish community center and retirement complex near Kansas City. None of the three people killed turned out to be Jewish.

The 73-year-old Cross, who shouted a Nazi slogan at television cameras when arrested minutes later, has been jailed awaiting charges that investigators said could come as early as Tuesday. At some point, a federal grand jury is expected to review the slayings, which authorities now deem a hate crime.

U.S. Attorney Barry Grissom said the victims "happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time" and had "a firsthand encounter with evil."

The FBI and police have not offered any public explanation for what triggered Sunday's deadly outburst in Overland Park on the eve of the Jewish festival of Passover. While the FBI and other law-enforcement agencies were familiar with Cross, Sunday's gunfire was "very random," the FBI's Michael Kaste said.

"We don't really see how this could have been prevented. There's at least no obvious answer," said Mark Potok, a senior fellow at the Alabama-based Southern Poverty Law Center, which tracks hate groups and had a considerable dossier on Cross. "He is one of the more frightening characters out there, no question about that."

A Johnson County jail official reached Monday by The Associated Press refused to make Cross available and referred inquiries to his attorneys and Overland Park police. The Kansas City Star reported that Cross had been assigned two federal public defenders.

Knocks by an Associated Press reporter went unanswered Monday at Cross' small, single-story home bordered on three sides with barbed-wire fences near the southwest Missouri town of Aurora, some 180 miles south of Overland Park. Parked outside was a red Chevrolet bearing two Confederate flag stickers.

In nearby Marionville, Mayor Dan Clevenger said Cross often distributed racist pamphlets.

The Southern Poverty Law Center said Cross, who also went by the name Frazier Glenn Miller, has been immersed in white supremacy most of his life. During the early 1980s, Cross was "one of the more notorious white supremacists in the U.S.," according to the Anti-Defamation League.

He founded the Carolina Knights of the Ku Klux Klan and served as its "grand dragon" before launching the supremacist White Patriot Party, the law center said.

AP

In this Sunday, April 13, 2014 image from video provided by KCTV-5, Frazier Glenn Cross, also known as Frazier Glenn Miller, is escorted by police in an elementary school parking lot in Overland Park, Kan.

Asia

Malaysia jet search area too deep for submarine

By MARGIE MASON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PERTH, Australia (AP)—The search area for the missing Malaysian jet has proved too deep for a robotic submarine which was hauled back to the surface of the Indian Ocean less than half way through its first seabed hunt for wreckage and the all-important black boxes, authorities said on Tuesday.

Search crews sent the Bluefin 21 deep into the Indian Ocean on Monday to begin scouring the seabed for the missing Malaysia Airlines Boeing 777 after failing for six days to detect any signals believed to be from its black boxes.

But after only six hours of its planned 16-hour mission on the sea bed, the autonomous underwater vehicle exceeded its maximum depth limit of 4,500 meters (15,000 feet) and its built-in safety feature returned it to the surface, the search coordination center said in a statement on Tuesday.

What if anything it might have discovered during the six-hour search was still being analyzed, it added.

The Bluefin 21 will resume the search Tuesday when weather conditions permit, it said.

Search authorities knew that the primary wreckage from Flight MH370 was likely lying at the limit of the Bluefin's dive capabilities. Deeper diving submersibles have been evaluated, but none is yet available in the search area.

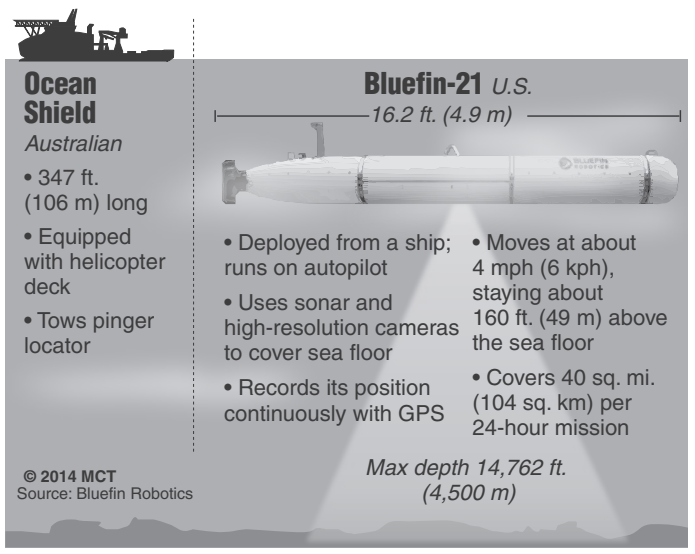
The sub would have been programed to return to the surface once it exceeded the 4,500-meter limit, but a safety margin would also have been included to protect the device from damage if it went a bit deeper, said Stefan Williams, a professor of marine robotics at the University of Sydney.

"Maybe some areas where they are doing the survey are a little bit deeper than they are expecting," he said. "They may not have very reliable prior data for the area, so they have a general idea. But there may be some variability on the sea floor that they also can't see from the surface."

Meanwhile, officials were investigating an oil slick about 5,500 meters (3.4 miles) from the area where the last underwater sounds were detected, said Angus Houston, the head of a joint agency coordinating the search off Australia's west coast.

Plane search focus changes

A robotic submersible called Bluefin-21 will start mapping the ocean floor after six days of silence and no signals detected from the missing Malaysian airliner. Australia's Ocean Shield will stop searching for acoustic signals, given the likelihood that the flight data recorder batteries have expired and are no longer transmitting signals. The air and surface search for debris will also be completed in the next two to three days.


Ocean Shield
Australian
• 347 ft. (106 m) long
• Equipped with helicopter deck
• Tows pinger locator
Bluefin-21 U.S.
16.2 ft. (4.9 m)
• Deployed from a ship; runs on autopilot
• Uses sonar and high-resolution cameras to cover sea floor
• Records its position continuously with GPS
• Moves at about 4 mph (6 kph), staying about 160 ft. (49 m) above the sea floor
• Covers 40 sq. mi. (104 sq. km) per 24-hour mission
Max depth 14,762 ft. (4,500 m)
© 2014 MCT
Source: Bluefin Robotics

2 Abu Sayyaf militants killed in Philippine raid

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Police commandos stormed a southern Philippine hideout of suspected Abu Sayyaf extremists blamed for kidnappings and extortion, triggering a firefight that led to the killing of two militants and the capture of six others, officials said.

Chief Superintendent Getulio Napenas, director of the national police Special Action Force, said his men raided a house Monday in Zamboanga City where an Abu Sayyaf subleader and his followers were believed hiding.

A policeman was wounded in the clash that ensued, while three suspected militants were arrested, he added in his report to National Police chief Alan Purisima. Four pistols and three grenades were recovered at the site.

Three other suspected militants were arrested in a follow up operation in the city, Napenas said. All six arrested men were taken to the police headquarters in Zamboanga City for interrogation.

On Sunday, security forces also captured a wanted Abu Sayyaf gunman during an operation on Basilan province, near Zamboanga City. A day earlier, Philippine marines patrolling a wooded area near a hill in southern Sulu province's mountainous Patikul town stumbled on about 30 Abu Sayyaf fighters. An ensuing 30-minute clash killed one militant and wounded an unknown number of other gunmen, marine brigade commander Brig. Gen. Martin Pinto said.

The Abu Sayyaf, which has been blamed for beheadings and deadly bombings, has been blacklisted by Washington as a terrorist organization. It is one of at least three armed Islamic groups outside of a peace deal the government signed last month with the main insurgent group in the south, the 11,000-strong Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Pakistan police arrest 2 suspected of cannibalism

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Police in central Pakistan arrested a man Monday suspected of cannibalism after finding body parts including a skull that may have belonged to a child in his house, officials said. Neighbors in the village of Khawar Kalan complained to police about a foul smell coming from the house, prompting them to raid it, said Ameer Abdullah, the police chief of Bhakkar district. Authorities believe the man and his brother dug up the bodies from a nearby graveyard where residents had also seen one of the men lurking, said another officer, Zafar Iqbal. He said they found what appeared to be a child's skull as well as other body parts at the house and were sending the skull for further tests. Authorities are looking for the brother.

Afghanistan: Ambush kills anti-Taliban militiamen

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—An Afghan official says a Taliban ambush has killed three members of a local militia that rose up against insurgent control of the area. The local chief of police, Lutfullah, said Monday that the militiamen were patrolling in Andar district in the eastern province of Ghazni when they were attacked Sunday night. He said three of the armed village men were killed and three others were wounded. Lutfullah, who uses just one name, said those killed were members of an "uprising unit" that two years ago took up arms against Taliban dominance of the area.

World

Blast at Nigerian bus station kills 72

AP

Victims of a blast lie on the ground as fire and smoke rise at a bus park in Abuja, Nigeria, Monday, April 14, 2014.

ABUJA, Nigeria (AP)—Suspected Islamic militants struck in the heart of Nigeria on Monday with a massive rush-hour bomb blast at a bus station that killed at least 72 people and wounded 164 in the deadliest attack ever on the nation's capital.

Survivors screamed in anguish and the stench of burning fuel and flesh hung over the area, where billows of black smoke rose as firefighters worked to put out the fires. Rescue workers and police gathered body parts as ambulances rushed the wounded to hospitals.

Visiting the blast scene, President Goodluck Jonathan blamed Boko Haram, the homegrown terrorist network that has targeted schools, churches, mosques, villages and government facilities, killing thousands in its five-year campaign to make Nigeria an Islamic state.

Authorities said at least 72 people were killed and 164 wounded, though the death toll was sure to climb because it did not include victims whose bodies were dismembered, the health ministry said. It was the deadliest attack yet in Abuja, the centrally located capital that is hundreds of miles from Boko Haram's stronghold in Nigeria's northeast.

"I can't count the number of people that died. They took them in open vehicles. People were running and there was confusion," said civil servant Ben Nwachukwu.

A counter-terrorism expert said the bomb appeared to have been buried underground, while the emergency management agency said the explosives were apparently hidden in a vehicle.

Little sign of accord as Obama, Putin speak

WASHINGTON (AP)—Speaking for the first time in more than two weeks, President Barack Obama and Russian President Vladimir Putin showed little sign of agreement on Monday, with the U.S. leader urging pro-Russian forces to de-escalate the situation in eastern Ukraine and Putin denying that Moscow was interfering in the region.

The White House said Russia initiated the phone call, which came as pro-Russian forces deepened their insurgency in Ukraine's east, seizing more than a dozen government buildings.

"The president expressed grave concern about Russian government support for the actions of armed, pro-Russian separatists who threaten to undermine and destabilize the government of Ukraine," the White House said in a description of Obama's call with Putin. "The president emphasized that all irregular forces in the country need to lay down their arms, and he urged President Putin to use his influence with these armed, pro-Russian groups to convince them to depart the buildings they have seized."

In its own description of the call, the Kremlin said Putin told Obama reports of Russian interference in the region were "based on unreliable information." The Russian leader also urged Obama to discourage the Ukrainian government from using force against those protesters.

Egypt: El-Sissi in final step to run for president

CAIRO (AP)—Egypt's former military chief on Monday took the final formal step to run in next month's presidential election, submitting to the election commission eight times the number of signatures required, his campaign said in a statement.

Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, a retired field marshal, did not deliver the 200,000 signatures in person. His campaign said a legal adviser, Mohammed Bahaa Abou Shaqah, delivered them.

Photos released by the campaign and footage aired on local TV networks showed security guards delivering white boxes with an image of the retired soldier plastered on the side along with the name of the province from which it said the signatures were obtained.

Officials from the election commission could not be reached to confirm the campaign's statement.

It is mandatory for any presidential hopeful to secure 25,000 signatures from at least 15 of the nation's 27 provinces in order to run in the May 26-27 vote. El-Sissi, who led the ouster of President Mohammed Morsi last July, was the first hopeful to submit the signatures.

El-Sissi's likely chief rival in the election is leftist politician Hamdeen Sabahi, who finished a strong third in the first round of the last presidential election, in June 2012. Morsi won the race in a runoff against second-placed Ahmed Shafiq, the last prime minister to serve under ousted president Hosni Mubarak.

El-Sissi's campaign says more signatures continue to pour into its Cairo headquarters, something it described as a "unique example of support and national backing" for the 59-year-old career soldier.

Campus Life

Six gold medals for GCA students at NJFL regionals

Five Grace Christian Academy students won six gold medals in six events at the 2014 National Junior Forensic League regional competition held Saturday, April 12, 2014, at Hopwood Junior High School. GCA finalists dominated this year's competition, bagging 13 awards for their 6th to 8th grade competitors.

The winners of gold medals are 6th grader Esther Kim for Story Telling and Poetry Reading, 8th grader Diane Arnold in Impromptu Speech and Duo Interpretation with another 8th grade student Peggy Pixley, 7th grader Melody Woo in Humorous Interpretation, and another 6th grade student, Harry Noh, in Extemporaneous Speech. All four of them will join the CNMI national team that will compete in the national competition in Overland Park, Kansas, on June 17-20, 2014.

The administration, faculty and staff, and parents of Grace Christian Academy would like to thank and extend their congratulations to their coach, Ami Joy Danganan, and to the following GCA winners and everyone who participated in this competition. Below is the complete list of all the GCA winners.

Duo Interpretation
1st Place, Peggy Pixley and Dianne Arnold
3rd Place, Esther Kim and You Sun Lee

Extemporaneous Speech
1st Place, Harry Noh
2nd Place, Jim Michael Ham

Original Oratory
2nd Place, Jim Michael Ham
4th Place, Harry Noh

Impromptu Speech
1st Place, Dianne Arnold

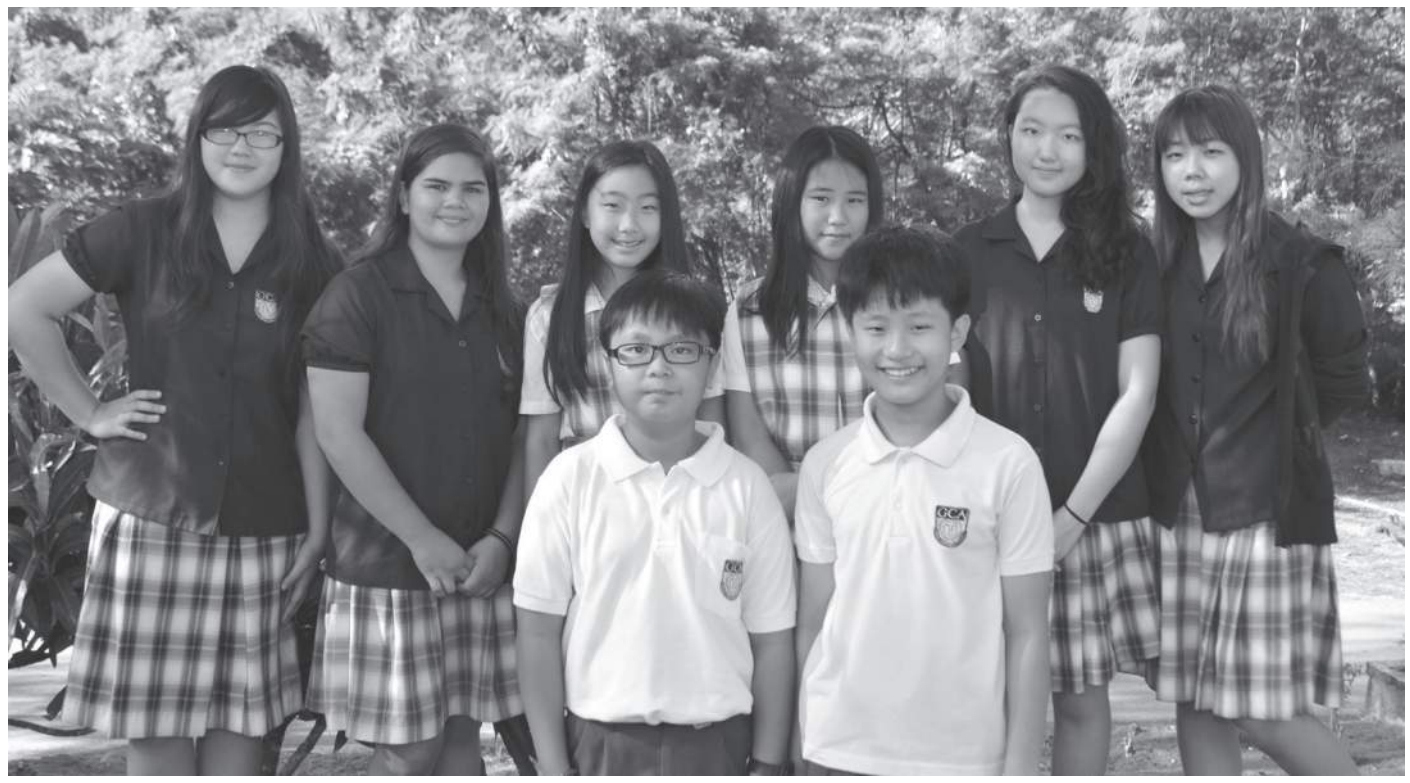
Poetry Reading
1st Place, Esther Kim

Storytelling
1st Place, Esther Kim

Humorous Interpretation
1st Place, Melody Woo

Dramatic Interpretation
2nd Place, Melody Woo

Prose Reading
3rd Place, Melody Woo
5th Place, April Seong



Grace Christian Academy's 2014 National Junior Forensic League winners. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NMI REP IN HISTORY BEE AND BOWL

Josiah Trinidad, a sophomore at Grace Christian Academy, will be representing the CNMI in the National History Bee and Bowl on April 26 and 27 in Washington, D.C. Trinidad won first place in the bee and bowl here on Saipan (JV Division). He also competed in Guam, placing first in the bee and third in the bowl (mixed JV and Varsity divisions). In Washington, D.C., Trinidad will be competing against 212 schools from across the nation.

2 MBA students make it to NFL national team

Marianas Baptist Academy congratulates its winners in the National Forensic League Regional Division held last Saturday, April 12, 2014 at Hopwood Junior High School.

Again, two of the school's 11 MBA participants made it to the Nationals, which will be held this summer, June 17- 20, 2014, in Overland Park, Kansas, the same venue as the National Forensic League.

Kwan Won Kim, who won in the Lincoln Douglas Debate, and Minju Kang in Prose Reading, both 7th graders, will be joining the National Team.

MBA principal Pastor Ramir Trinidad, NJFL/ NFL coach Ellen Alejo, teachers and staff, and all parents would like to congratulate the winners and participants.

KWAN WON KIM
1st Place,
Lincoln Douglas Debate
3rd Place, Humorous Interpretation

MINJU KANG
2nd Place, Prose Reading

JULIA ISHIKAWA
5th Place, Poetry

FINALIST/SEMIFINALISTS:
Matt Moran, Poetry
Ian Rei Cataluna, Poetry
Steven An,
Dramatic Interpretation
Tina Choi, Impromptu

MBA National Junior Forensic League winners and participants, together with their coach. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The members of the NJFL National Team, Minju Kang and Kwan Won Kim, have their picture taken with their coach, Ellen Alejo.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Kwan Won Kim, Lincoln Douglas debater, poses with his teacher and coach, Ellen Alejo.

Life & Style

A monthlong celebration of poetry

April is National Poetry Month, a monthlong, national celebration of poetry established by the Academy of American Poets as a way to increase awareness and appreciation of poetry in the United States. To mark the occasion, Tinian English teacher Joseph Connolly submitted the following poems for publication:

Dylan, Ginsberg, and Spoonie Gee - the Godfather of Hip Hop

By JOSEPH B. CONNOLLY
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

What follows is a sonnet I wrote about Bob Dylan on his 70th birthday, May 24, 2011. I saw Dylan in his very early days when he performed with Joan Baez and at the famous Newport Folk Festival where he went 'ELECTRIC' with the Paul Butterfield Blues Band. I had just read a rare interview with him in *Time* magazine where he said he had no plans to retire as he approached 70. Although his writing skills have not diminished his voice, which was never his strong suit, is pretty much shot. I have seen him in the past few years play in Vegas and most of his vocals were raspy and difficult to understand.

The poem on Allan Ginsberg was written a week after his death. He died April 5, 1997. I wrote him a thank you poem while leaving the island of Saipan, CNMI eight days later. Ginsberg was a major figure in the Beat poetry movement. Though he followed in the tradition of Walt Whitman he also incorporated topical protest and commentary, and Eastern religion, in his poems. The nascent folksingers of Greenwich Village at the time heard his poetry and they, the FUGS, along with Bob Dylan changed the history of social music and ushered in the protest movement of the '60s and the "LOVE" generation. Ginsburg himself recorded and sang an album of poems by William Blake. Those "Songs of Innocence and Songs of Experience" by William Blake protested the evils of the Industrial Revolution of Blake's day. One of Ginsberg's famous early poems was called Howl. His famous Kaddish poem (Kaddish is a Jewish prayer for the dead) was written for his mother, Naomi.

One day I heard my son playing a CD by a group called Ludicrus as I was reading a villanelle by Oscar Wilde called *Theocritus*. Spoonie Gee came to my mind. Spoonie Gee is said to be the first person to use the term "hip hop" and is called by some "the original gangster rapper." Iceberg Slim mentioned in the villanelle is the author of *Autobiography of a Pimp*. Spoonie Gee is still around but has been in and out of prison for years. He is also known as the "Godfather of Hip Hop." A villanelle is a 16th century French form that means "rustic song" or "dance." Its roots are in Italy but the French poets made it what it is today. Enjoy.

BOB DYLAN ON HIS 70th BIRTHDAY - MAY 24, 2011

The times they are a changing, know what I mean
Somehow seventy is still seven times ten
Times are strange and some things have changed in between
I been singin' that out since I don't know when
Made a million dollars singin' through my nose
Turned my back on my fans with a deliberate pose
Singing songs suggesting whatever I chose
Dressed up and down in Salvation Army clothes
Duluth to New York, Woodstock to Malibu
On a never ending tour with my guitar
Just to sing my folk rock songs and tunes for you
I'm a country rollin thunder swollen star
Won't stop working, my trade wheels still on fire
Got a show down the road, no plans to retire

THANKS FOR THE HOWLING

**for Allan Ginsberg, d. 04/05/1997*

Howl at the earth
Howl for the Hell of it
Howl at our birth
Howl just to tell of it

Kaddish for Dads
Kaddish for Moms
Kaddish for cads
Kaddish for bombs

Beat words to greet
Beat words to meet
Beat words to eat
Beat words not sweet

Thanks for the litany of leftist lists
Thanks for the religious radical rage
Thanks for the global East-West village twists
Thanks for the beat on every page

LUDICRITUS UBIQUITOUS

**a villanelle after Oscar Wilde's Theocritus*

O rapper with hip hop CD!
In the old ghettos consulate
Do you remember Spoonie Gee?

Chill through boom box or DVD
While Tupac Shakur lies in state
O rapper with hip hop CD!

Eminem calls on Dr. Dre
And lets the dogs out at the gate
Does he remember Spoonie Gee?

Still by the light of MTV
Vanquished Vanilla Ice finds his fate
O rapper with hip hop CD!

And still in free style rivalry
Young boys in the hood challenge hate
Do they remember Spoonie Gee?

Iceberg Slim gives out blunts for free
Four anorexic groupies wait
O rapper with hip hop CD!
Do you remember Spoonie Gee?

Silly Sonnets: Blabbermock and Other Whacky Jabber

By JOSEPH B. CONNOLLY
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

I used the title of a Lewis Carroll poem, *Jabberwocky*, found inside *Through the Looking Glass and What Alice Found There* (1871) as my inspiration for the *Blabbermock* sonnet found below. *Twisting the 'IST' Thing* is about people's attempts to categorize other people. I heard a *Vampire Lullaby* one "Twilight" night that lasted till "Dawn" when I started to yawn on a *duende*'s front lawn. *The Camel Dances* is my latest nonsense sonnet. Enjoy.

BEWARE the BLABBERMOCK

Beware the Blabbermock my friends, sons, and daughters
The mouth that runs, the brain that won't
Words flowing forth like Mississippi waters
The thoughtless tongue, the thoughts that don't

He took his wireless microphone in hand
Blah blah blah on blogs all over the land
Spin spin goes the spin meister in cyberspace
Don't look back at exaggerations, lies are no disgrace

Long time his bling bling chortling foes he sought
On tweets, prime time news, and late late shows
With more and more online ads to be bought
Just babbling and blabbing on with more vapid prose

Who then is the Blabbermock all you grownups, girls, and boys?
Why it's the biggest mouth you hear spouting nonsensical noise

TWISTING the 'IST' THING

Q. I heard you are a Buddhist. Is it true?
A. I heard that too. I'm no more a Buddhist than you.
I am at times a rude-ist and a dude-ist on a 'no' list
At other times in other places and in other rhymes
I'm a cutist, a flutist, and a fresh water pollutist
A foodist, a goofless, toothless old fool, old school
Old mule, mold tool, golden rule, thread spool
Rubber boot-ist, river canoe-ist, always do this
Never do this, try to do-ist, eschewist, swine fluist
Stuck like glue-ist, Seussian 'who' ist, aid de koolist
Playing pool-ist, quantum quarkist, orangish sunkist
Off the wish list, fish on a dish-ist, do the twist-ist
So when its all through, that is the don't and the do
I will be I and you? and you will be you and I too

A VAMPIRE LULLABY

Can't you hear them werewolves howling
Silver bullets fly through the air
Outside the graveyard zombies scowling
Sparks fall from a lodestone chair

All night long owls hooting, little demons in cahoots
Underneath stone bridges trolls and gremlins rehearse
Kidnap plans for Lil Miss Muffet and her partner Puss-in-Boots
The headless horseman pulls up with a carriage hearse

Duendes and leprechauns play tricks and dance
The devil comes up from Georgia to play the fiddle
Sprites and faeries make tea from mandrake plants
Rumplestiltskin tells riddle after riddle

Morning is coming and the bloodhounds all howl and cry
Off in the distance an old mother sings a vampire lullaby

This lullaby can be sung (with some effort) to the tune of When My Sweet Love Ain't Around.

HAVING MORE FUN WITH FUN

More fun than kittens getting frisky
More fun than a house full of mice
More fun than a barrel of Irish whiskey
More fun than skating on thin ice
More fun than a young frog's bound
More fun than getting out of school
More fun than tops tightly wound
More fun than a pie full of faces
More fun than a car full of clowns
More fun than drawing five Aces
More fun than life's up and downs
So don't stop now. Get up and run
In any direction to have more fun

THE CAMEL DANCES

**for Anna Glushko*

" Satisfaction will come to those who please themselves".

one hump or two the camel dances
swallowing her spit, sashay sashay
on dunes in the desert she bobs and prances
portraying pachyderms in a dromedary ballet
she forms five positions on four legs and more
tutu tata, one and two, plie', releve', under the sun
pirouetting till all her pads were sore
she took a bow; some folks complained
"you are not and never will be a ballet dancer"
she said that ignorant remark I'll just ignore
how wrong they are she explained
and continued plodding measure for measure
for ballet gives me satisfaction and pleasure
and now as the sands of time shift through deep desert dunes
the camel dances to Heliogabalus' and algebraic Arabic tunes

Donna Tartt wins fiction Pulitzer for 'Goldfinch'

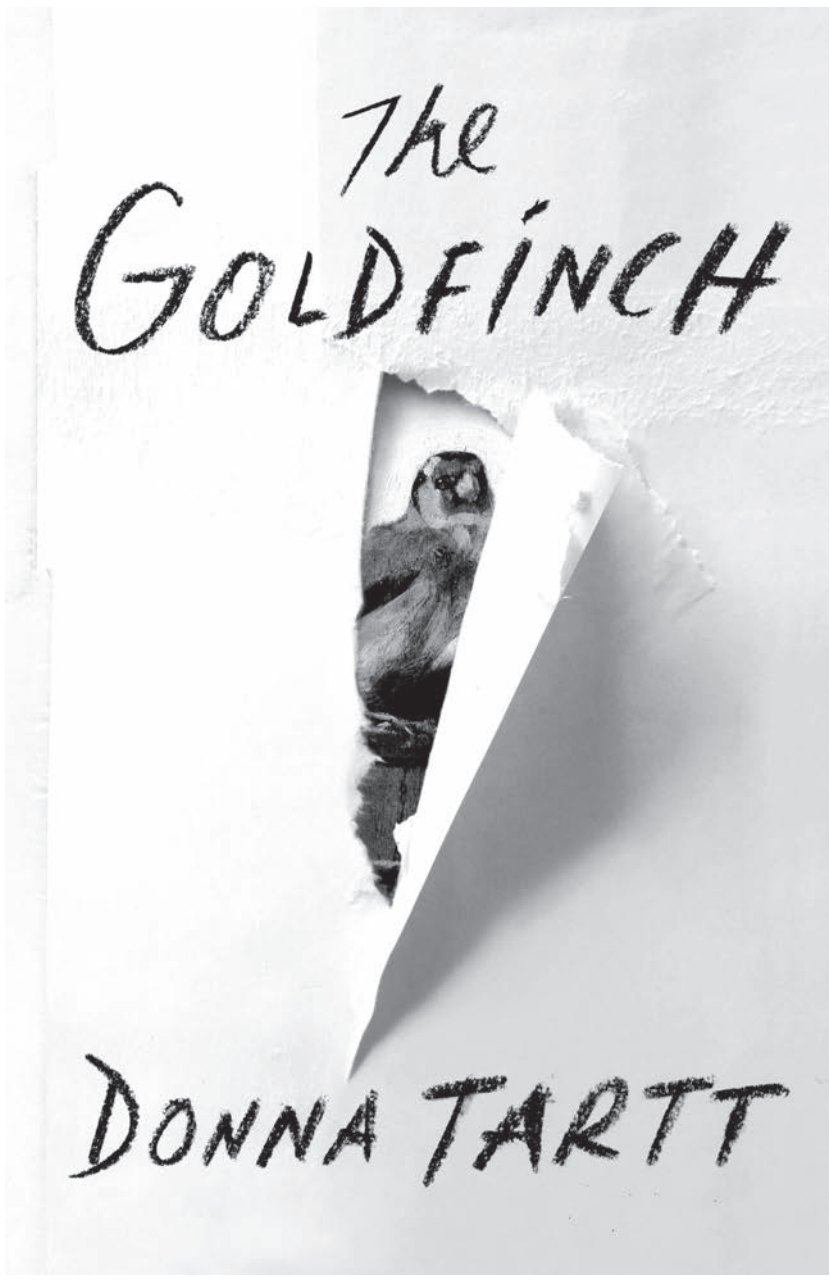
NEW YORK (AP)—Donna Tartt's "The Goldfinch," already among the most popular and celebrated novels of the past year, has won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction. One of the country's top colonial historians, Alan Taylor, has won his second Pulitzer, for "The Internal Enemy: Slavery and War In Virginia."

Annie Baker's "The Flick" won the Pulitzer for drama, a play set in a movie theater that was called a "thoughtful drama with well-crafted characters" which created "lives rarely seen on the stage."

The award Monday for general nonfiction went to Dan Fagin's "Toms River: A Story of Science and Salvation," a chronicle of industrial destruction in a small New Jersey community that was praised by The New York Times as a "classic of science reporting." Megan Marshall's "Margaret Fuller: A New American Life," about the 19th century intellectual and transcendentalist, won for biography; and Vijay Seshadri's witty and philosophical "3 Sections" received the poetry prize.

The Pulitzer for music was given to John Luther Adams' "Become Ocean," which judges cited as "a haunting orchestral work that suggests a relentless tidal surge, evoking thoughts of melting polar ice and rising sea levels."

Tartt's novel, a sweeping, Dickensian tale about a young orphan set in modern Manhattan, was published last fall to high praise and quick commercial success that has not relented. "The Goldfinch" has been nominated for a National Book Critics Circle prize and an Andrew Carnegie Medal and on Monday was in the top 40 on Amazon.com's best seller list even before the Pulitzer was announced.



AP

This photo provided by Little, Brown and Company shows the book cover of "The Goldfinch," by Donna Tartt.

Tartt

Fans of the 50-year-old Mississippi native, many of whom still had strong memories of her 1992 debut, "The Secret History," had waited a decade for her to complete her third novel. "The Goldfinch" was published after the disappointing "The Little Friend." The Pulitzer will likely ensure her place among the elite of contemporary fiction writers and make "The Goldfinch" a million seller.

"I am incredibly happy and incredibly honored and the only thing I am sorry about is that Willie Morris and Barry Hannah aren't here. They would have loved this," said Tartt, referring to two authors who had been early mentors.

Meanwhile, the 59-year-old Taylor has reaffirmed his stature as a premier scholar of early American history. His "William Cooper's Town: Power and Persuasion on the Frontier of the Early American Republic," winner of the Pulitzer and Bancroft prizes, was published in 1996 and praised as an enlightening and rigorous study of the founding of Cooperstown, N.Y.

"The Internal Enemy" has been cited as a worthy follow-up to Edmund Morgan's landmark "American Slavery, American Freedom," a story of the conflicting passions among white Virginians who both eloquently defended their own freedoms and suspiciously presided over the slaves who made their livelihoods possible.

Taylor said Monday that the book had been an education for him recalling how he came upon documents that showed how escaped slaves had assisted the British during the War of 1812 and were an important factor in the British capture of Washington, D.C.

"This is a story I had known nothing about and I was supposed to be a specialist," he said.

The Columbia University's prize board honored Baker, who is in her early 30s, for her play about friendship, morality and loyalty. "The Flick" played off-Broadway at Playwrights Horizons last year becoming divisive among critics. Many admired its attempt to capture real life but others found it tediously long.

In "The Flick," three relatively youthful, low-paid employees work together in a rundown movie theater in Massachusetts that still shows 35-millimeter movies on film. Everyday jealousies, disappointments and anger share the stage with jokes, chit-chat, occasional poignant revelations and a lot of workplace tedium.

Aw, geez, 'Fargo' is on TV with Billy Bob Thornton

By FRAZIER MOORE
AP TELEVISION WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—After failed attempts and broken dreams, by golly, someone went and put "Fargo" on series TV.

The 10-episode season premieres Tuesday at 10 p.m. EDT on FX. And it mesmerizes. As a furtherance of the 1996 crime classic by Joel and Ethan Coen that starred Frances McDormand, William H. Macy and Steve Buscemi, the TV adaptation is a wonder.

Like that movie, the series is set in rural, snow-glazed Minnesota, but 20 years later (in 2006), and is stocked with new characters, deadly mischief and a bounty of stars including Allison Tolman as a bright-eyed deputy and Martin Freeman as a nebbishy insurance salesman (distant echoes of the roles played by McDormand and Macy in the film). Also on hand are Colin Hanks, Bob Odenkirk, Oliver Platt, Kate Walsh, Keith Carradine, Adam Goldberg, Keegan-Michael Key and Jordan Peele, and more.

At the core of its deliciously deranged narrative is Lorne Malvo, a sotto-voce psycho whose mysterious path brings him to the town of Bemidji, with many repercussions.

Lorne is played by Billy Bob Thornton, who radiates still menace while sporting what he calls "a haircut gone wrong."

AP

This image released by FX shows Allison Tolman as Molly Solverson, left, and Shawn Doyle as Vern Thurman in a scene from "Fargo." The 10-episode season premieres Tuesday at 10 p.m. EDT on FX.

"This was not from a salon," Thornton explains. "It was done by a friend. But looking in the mirror, I thought, `Wow—this dark character having bangs, which you associate with innocence, would be great.' So we decided to go with it."

The man bringing "Fargo" back to life after ill-fated tries by NBC and CBS in the late 1990s is Noah Hawley, who serves as the show runner, an executive producer and the writer of all 10 episodes.

Somehow Hawley internalized the rules and deadpan tone of the Coens (who are also onboard as executive producers), then ran with their sense of twisted realism to create his own thing.

"He captured the Coen Brothers' spirit, got their vibe, and yet he didn't imitate `em," says Thornton. "I thought, if you've done that, you've done something great."

And when he encountered Lorne Malvo in Hawley's pilot script, "I don't know why, but I just went, `Yeah. That fits: a hand in a glove.'

"I liked the idea of playing a guy who has no conscience," Thornton goes on. "He has this weird sense of humor. He likes to mess with people. And as we went along I started thinking, he's a loner, so messing with people is actually his social life, his recreation."

This is a guy who, when threatened on his home turf by a thug twice his size, unconcernedly steps to his bathroom, drops his trousers and takes a seat. His foe, appalled, beats a hasty retreat.

"He doesn't like weakness," Thornton adds. "He has this weird curiosity about weak people. And he sees them as people he can use."

Having drawn Freeman's jammed-up pipsqueak into his lair, Lorne shares his code on being tough: "We used to be gorillas. All we have is what we can take and defend."

Speaking with a reporter in New York last week, the 58-year-old Thornton is jauntily clad in pants with broad black-and-navy stripes, T-shirt, leather jacket, boots and knit fingerless gloves.

He is friendly, easygoing and charismatic with his soft Southern accent—like his character, a force to be reckoned with.

"The most important thing for an actor to know is who he is," Thornton says. "He's got to know, `OK, I'm the guy for this role—or not.' Like I always tell people, `If you're doing a movie about Charles de Gaulle, get a French man. That ain't me.'

"People will say, `Well, you need to stretch yourself as an actor.' But if you start trying to play people who are inherently not you, that's not going to be your strongest stuff."

No one can say Thornton hasn't stretched. He has scored in popcorn comedies like "Bad Santa" and "Mr. Woodcock" between decidedly grown-up dramas: the Coen Brothers' "The Man Who Wasn't There," "Monster's Ball," "A Simple Plan" and, of course, "Sling Blade," which he wrote, directed and starred in, winning an Oscar for best adapted screenplay and a best actor nod.

He arrived in Los Angeles as a young man from backwoods Arkansas, looking to write for Hollywood or form a rock band (music remains a lifelong passion).

This country boy with a hayseed triple name may have seemed like a long shot in Tinseltown, "but I've always believed in providence," says Thornton. "Things were really hard at first, but I always had this belief that it was going to be OK."

Then he found his way into an acting class.

"My desire was just to be a working actor," he replies when asked the scope of his career goal. His ideals: the great character actors Strother Martin and Warren Oates.

"I thought I'd always be sixth or seventh on the call sheet. I never expected much more. So I thought I'd really made it on `Hearts Afire,'" the early `90s political sitcom starring John Ritter with Thornton in a supporting role. "But years before, I thought I'd made it when I had just one scene on `Matlock'!

"It was all fine," he sums up, "all along the way."

Fans think Banksy behind artwork mocking UK spies

LONDON (AP)—Street artist Banksy may have struck again, leaving an espionage-themed graffiti artwork in the hometown of Britain's electronic spy agency.

A stenciled artwork has appeared on a wall in the western England city of Cheltenham, depicting three figures in trench coats and trilbys snooping on a telephone booth.

Cheltenham is home to GCHQ, Britain's electronic eavesdropping agency. The secretive organization found itself in the spotlight after some of its covert activities were revealed by former NSA contractor Edward Snowden.

GCHQ said Monday the agency was "as intrigued as the rest of the residents of Cheltenham about the appearance of the mysterious artwork."

The work has not been claimed on Bansky's official website, but has many of the elusive artist's hallmarks, including the stenciled technique and ironic social commentary.

AP

A new graffiti street art piece, suspected of being a Banksy, appeared in, Cheltenham England Monday April 14, 2014.

Flavor Flav takes plea deal in Vegas battery case

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Entertainer Flavor Flav pleaded guilty Monday to reduced charges and was sentenced to probation and more counseling in a Las Vegas domestic violence case involving the teenage son of his longtime girlfriend.

The 55-year-old rapper and reality TV personality, whose legal name is William Jonathan Drayton Jr., acknowledged in court that he wielded a kitchen knife during an Oct. 17, 2012, argument at home in Las Vegas.

The teen testified during a preliminary hearing a year ago that Drayton threatened to kill him, chased him to a bedroom and stabbed the knife through the door during the argument.

The family has since reconciled and has been undergoing counseling, defense attorney Kristina Wildeveld told Senior Clark County District Court Judge Kathy Hardcastle on Monday.

AP

This Oct. 17, 2012 file image released by the Las Vegas Police Department shows rapper Flavor Flav, also known as William Jonathan Drayton, Jr., in a police booking photo.

In court, Drayton called the victim his stepson.

"I love my son and my son loves me, too," he told the judge.

The teen, now 18, and his mother were not in court when Drayton entered his plea to misdemeanor charges of attempted battery that could have caused substantial injury and battery constituting domestic violence.

Drayton had been facing felony assault and child endangerment with a weapon charges that could have gotten him up to 12 years in prison.

Outside court, the entertainer pulled his trademark clock neckwear from beneath a red T-shirt, as he and his defense attorneys said they don't expect the Las Vegas conviction to affect a pending felony speeding and driving without a license case in Mineola, N.Y.

"I'm standing here in front of the camera," Drayton said, "not behind bars."

The New York charges stem from Drayton's Jan. 9 arrest while driving to his mother's funeral on Long Island.

Wildeveld said Drayton was paying fines to resolve that case.

If Drayton violates terms of the agreement in the domestic violence case, he could face up to a year in county jail, the judge said.

Flavor Flav has been performing on tour since his induction last year with the rap group Public Enemy into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

Hardcastle set an Aug. 18 court appearance to close the case if Drayton completes counseling.

Judge: Michael Jackson's mom should pay costs

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Michael Jackson's mother should pay more than $800,000 in trial costs to a concert promoter that she targeted in a failed negligent hiring lawsuit involving the death of her son, a judge said Monday.

Superior Court Judge Yvette Palazuelos issued the tentative ruling calling on the Jackson family matriarch to pay AEG Live LLC after it won the case.

The five-month trial ended in October with a jury determining that AEG Live did not negligently hire the doctor convicted of causing Michael Jackson's death in 2009 as he prepared for a comeback tour.

The ruling is expected to be finalized after AEG Live submits an amended list of its costs for items such as court filing fees, court reporters and travel. Attorneys for the company and Katherine Jackson agreed not to argue Palazuelos' tentative ruling, but it might be appealed.

Katherine

Katherine Jackson's attorney Kevin Boyle said a decision on appealing the order would be made after reviewing its final language. The verdict and rulings in the case are currently being appealed.

AEG Live initially sought more than $1.2 million to cover its costs. Katherine Jackson's lawyers claimed only about a quarter of that amount was justified.

AEG Live attorney Marvin Putnam said the court did the right thing "by ordering Katherine Jackson to pay nearly $1 million spent in having to defend a matter that she should have never brought in the first place."

A motion filed by her lawyers last week stated that the costs would be borne by her and the singer's three children, all of whom are supported by his estate.

The estate has earned hundreds of millions of dollars since the singer's death and paid off his debts. It also covers schooling, housing and other costs for his children and mother.

Jackson died in June 2009 after receiving an overdose of the anesthetic propofol, which former cardiologist Conrad Murray was giving the superstar as a sleep aid during preparations for his planned "This Is It" shows. Murray was found guilty of involuntary manslaughter.

Discovery to air flight off Everest peak on May 11

NEW YORK (AP)—Discovery Channel has set the date for its live coverage of the first wingsuit flight off the summit of Mount Everest.

The network plans to air "Everest Jump Live" on May 11 at 9 p.m. Eastern time, weather permitting. It will also be telecast globally.

High-altitude climber Joby Ogwyn will make the attempt. Discovery will air a live two-hour broadcast showing the California native as he battles conditions on the way to the summit of the world's tallest mountain, then takes the plunge. His custom-made wingsuit will be equipped with cameras to capture the descent of more than 10,000 vertical feet at speeds exceeding 150 mph.

The event will be preceded by five nights of live programs from Everest covering Ogwyn's training and preparation. They begin May 5.

Cellphone snoop discovers her boyfriend is cheating

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I have been in a long-distance relationship with "Victor" for several years. Recently I began to suspect he was cheating. What raised my suspicion was that I suddenly couldn't reach him on the weekends. Usually we would Skype—Sunday night for me, Monday morning for him.

Last February when I visited him, I snooped in his phone—spare me the condemnation. I found an email he had written to an old girlfriend in which he suggested they plan their "next" rendezvous.

I plan on dumping him, but I don't know how to go about it. I've always been bad at dumping people. Should I write him a letter and confess that I snooped? My first inclination is to disconnect completely and say nothing.

I'm afraid to confront him because he is obviously a good liar. I'm afraid if I do, he'll make me doubt the evidence ... trust me, he's that good!

CHEATED ON IN L.A.

DEAR CHEATED ON: Why any woman would stay with someone who is a practiced liar ("that good") is beyond me. My advice is to disconnect from him and say nothing. It should be interesting to see how long it takes him to notice your absence.

When he does—which probably won't be on a weekend—tell him the romance is over and reference the email he sent his former girlfriend. Expect him to go on the offensive and try to make you feel guilty for having checked his cellphone. Don't buy it, and don't relent. Just be glad you found out now.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I don't know if you have addressed the issue of women and breast augmentation from the standpoint of noticing the work done, but I am trying to find a way to say "I noticed" without being crude or tacky.

My wife works with a woman who recently had augmentation surgery, and we agree that the doctor did a very nice job. According to my wife, the woman is not shy about discussing her surgery. I have known her for years, and we're on friendly terms. We talk often and exchange hugs.

How would I go about complimenting her on her new look? I don't want to say the wrong thing. Or should I just say nothing?

ENJOYS THE VIEW IN PHOENIX

DEAR ENJOYS THE VIEW: All you need to say is, "You look GREAT!" and she'll get the message. Trust me.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: Every time I talk to anyone, my husband says I give too many details. While I understand that men are different from women, he often bugs me when I talk to female friends or my mother-in-law. I don't know what to do, because we women love to talk and share details. Please reassure me that I'm not an oddity.

TALKIN' UP A STORM

DEAR TALKIN' UP A STORM: You're not an oddity, and your husband should not be eavesdropping on your conversations. He should be glad that you and his mother get along so well that you both enjoy sharing details, because it's a sign of a healthy relationship. However, because he can't resist "bugging" you, converse with your friends and his mother when you're out of earshot.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

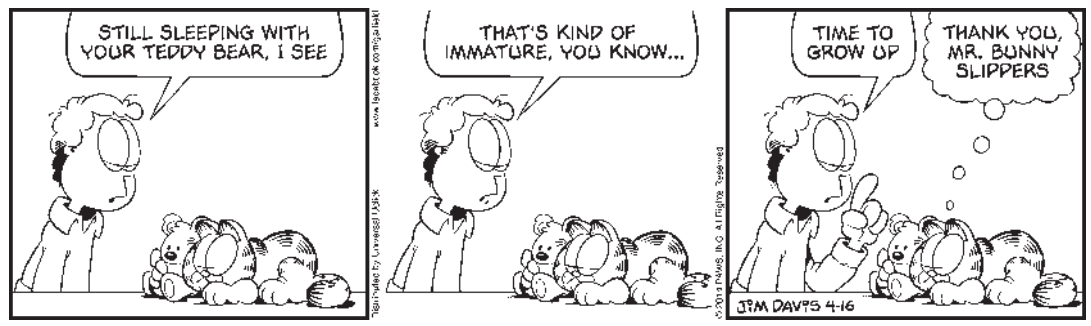
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

AAAAUUUUUUUUGGGGGGGHHHHHHHHHHH!
LOOK, I KNOW YOU DON'T LIKE ROSALYN, BUT SHE'S THE ONLY BABY SITTER I COULD GET.
AND YOU REMEMBER OUR TALK AFTER WHAT HAPPENED LAST TIME, DON'T YOU? I WANT YOU ON YOUR BEST BEHAVIOR TONIGHT.
YOU DO EXACTLY WHAT SHE TELLS YOU. I DON'T WANT TO COME HOME AND HEAR ANY HORROR STORIES, OK?
FOR GOODNESS SAKE, CALVIN! TAKE A BREATH BEFORE YOU PASS OUT ON THE FLOOR!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis


STILL SLEEPING WITH YOUR TEDDY BEAR, I SEE
THAT'S KIND OF IMMATURE, YOU KNOW...
TIME TO GROW UP
THANK YOU, MR. BUNNY SLIPPERS
JIM DAVIS 4-16

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED HYPNOSIS?
NO. I'M PRETTY HAPPY WRITING.
NOT AS A CAREER, DING DONG. TO STOP SNACKING.
OH. THAT WOULDN'T WORK. MY WILL IS TOO STRONG. I'M NOT SUSCEPTIBLE TO...
SO I SNAPPED MY FINGERS, HE FELL SOUND ASLEEP, AND HIT HIS NOSE SLIDING UNDER THE TABLE.
DID IT MAKE THAT BOIIING SOUND LIKE WHEN YOU FLICK THE DOOR STOPPER?

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

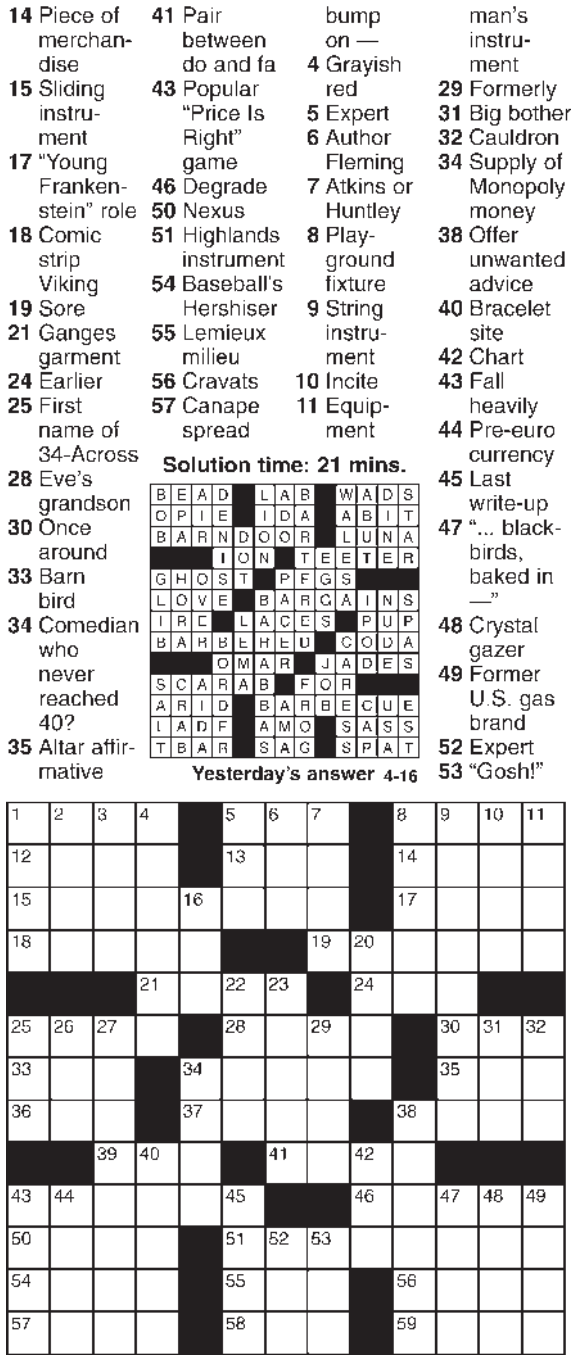
ACROSS
1 Roe source
5 Photo, for short
8 Overly confident
12 Kansas city
13 Bleacherite's call
14 Piece of merchandise
15 Sliding instrument
17 "Young Frankenstein" role
18 Comic strip Viking
19 Sore
21 Ganges garment
24 Earlier
25 First name of 34-Across
28 Eve's grandson
30 Once around
33 Barn bird
34 Comedian who never reached 40?
35 Altar affirmative
36 Well, I'll — monkey's uncle!"
37 Guinness or Baldwin
38 Entanglement
39 Skedaddled
41 Pair between do and fa
43 Popular "Price Is Right" game
46 Degrade
50 Nexus
51 Highlands instrument
54 Baseball's Hershiser
55 Lemieux milieu
56 Cravats
57 Canape spread
58 Driver's site
59 Nil

DOWN
1 Enemy of the Jedi
2 Lively folk dance
3 Like a bump on —
4 Grayish red
5 Expert
6 Author Fleming
7 Atkins or Huntley
8 Playground fixture
9 String instrument
10 Incite
11 Equipment
16 Lingerie item
20 Simple
22 Rod's partner
23 Central
25 Occupation
26 Overwhelm
27 Goodman's instrument
29 Formerly
31 Big bother
32 Cauldron
34 Supply of Monopoly money
38 Offer unwanted advice
40 Bracelet site
42 Chart
43 Fall heavily
44 Pre-euro currency
45 Last write-up
47 "... blackbirds, baked in —"
48 Crystal gazer
49 Former U.S. gas brand
52 Expert
53 "Gosh!"

Solution time: 21 mins.

B	E	A	D	■	L	A	B	■	W	A	D	S
O	P	I	E	■	I	D	A	■	A	B	I	T
B	A	R	N	D	O	O	R	■	L	U	N	A
■	■	■	I	O	N	■	T	E	E	T	E	R
G	H	O	S	T	■	P	F	G	S	■	■	■
L	O	V	E	■	B	A	R	G	A	I	N	S
I	R	E	■	L	A	C	E	S	■	P	U	P
B	A	R	B	E	H	E	U	■	C	O	D	A
■	■	■	O	M	A	R	■	J	A	D	E	S
S	C	A	R	A	B	■	F	O	R	■	■	■
A	R	I	D	■	B	A	R	B	E	C	U	E
L	A	D	F	■	A	M	O	■	S	A	S	S
T	B	A	R	■	S	A	G	■	S	P	A	T

Yesterday's answer 4-16



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jon Cryer, 49; Martin Lawrence, 49; Ellen Barkin, 60; Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, 67

Happy Birthday: Wise words, explicit expression and determination will help you get the support you need to move forward. Don't allow circumstances or negative individuals to sideline you. Look at your prospects and follow through with your plans. Unexpected change may be daunting, but picking up the pieces and carrying on will show your strength, courage and resilience. Your numbers are 4, 10, 13, 21, 26, 35, 49.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Take care of any pending personal problems that affect your home or personal finances. A rash decision based on unsolicited information will make matters worse. Listen carefully, but don't make a move just yet. Focus on home improvement, not domestic disaster. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You won't have enough information to make a good decision. Do what you can to help others and to make the most of the relationships you have. Draw on the good qualities friends and peers have to secure joint ventures. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't trust a sales pitch that promises personal perfection. Find ways to make improvements without getting into a costly expense that is likely to disappoint you. Helping others will bring satisfaction, but don't try to buy favors or love. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Use your imagination and creativity and you'll find an outlet that can also bring you extra cash. Friendships may be questioned if someone puts demands on you. Networking with people who share your concerns will lead to better friendships. ✪✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Stand up and face opposition head-on. You won't make everyone happy, but you will get things done. Change is overdue and setting your sights on your goals will ensure that you reach your destination successfully. Actions will bring good results. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Changing your mind or dealing with someone who is inconsistent will lead to loss. Do your part to keep the momentum flowing and your goals in sight. A change in the way you treat someone will lead to a unique relationship. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Stay calm. The best way to handle anyone or a situation that arises is to be observant. Learn from past experience and anticipate how others will react by the performance displayed under similar circumstances and act accordingly. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Expand your mind and your awareness. A philosophic approach to what others do and say will give you an edge and help you take control of a situation that can influence your professional position. A unique lifestyle change will satisfy your needs. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Don't let your curiosity lead you astray. Follow the path that allows you to use your talent and abilities skillfully. Have some fun, but don't try to be something or someone you are not. Money will come from an unexpected source. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Stick close to home and avoid taking risks of any kind. Problems surrounding your relationship with a peer, friend or lover will escalate if you aren't willing to listen to the complaints being made. Be fair and willing to forgive. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Rely on where you come from and how you were raised to guide you in the right direction. A gift or financial gain is apparent, but will come at an emotional cost. Stick to a plan and a reasonable budget. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Refuse to let someone take over or push you in a direction not suited to getting the results you want. Put your signature on whatever you do. Follow through with your ideas and plans regardless of opposition. Love is on the rise. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are observant, engaging and curious. You are outspoken and a crusader.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

								9
			7	8			4	2
		9			1		3	
	7	3	1			4		
1				7		2		
	6	2	3			9		7
	3		9			7		8
		6			7	5		4
						3	2	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/16

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	6	7	5	2	9	3	8	1
1	9	2	4	8	3	7	5	6
5	3	8	1	7	6	2	9	4
8	5	4	9	3	7	1	6	2
7	2	3	8	6	1	9	4	5
9	1	6	2	5	4	8	7	3
2	7	1	6	9	5	4	3	8
3	8	5	7	4	2	6	1	9
6	4	9	3	1	8	5	2	7

Difficulty Level ★★ 4/15

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THINKING ABOUT RETIREMENT Solution: 7 letters

Y	P	L	A	Y	E	C	N	A	R	U	S	N	I	E
T	A	C	H	I	E	V	E	M	E	N	T	N	N	R
I	R	N	P	E	N	I	T	U	O	R	O	O	C	O
R	T	O	E	T	S	U	J	D	A	I	T	R	O	L
U	T	S	P	R	E	A	D	V	T	S	R	(E)	M	P
C	I	F	T	P	D	V	E	P	E	E	E	(F)	E	X
E	M	U	R	N	U	L	O	L	E	P	A	(I)	P	E
S	E	T	U	A	E	S	I	L	E	R	T	(L)	T	T
I	V	U	O	T	E	M	E	H	U	X	A	E	M	A
U	O	R	T	G	E	O	T	C	C	N	I	C	O	C
R	M	E	N	B	S	N	L	S	N	D	T	T	D	O
C	R	A	E	R	E	E	J	I	E	A	N	E	E	L
S	H	A	R	E	G	Y	N	O	V	V	N	A	E	E
C	C	O	T	T	A	G	E	E	Y	E	N	I	R	R
H	S	G	N	I	V	A	S	S	E	N	T	I	F	G

© 2014 Universal Uclick www.wonderwordcom Join us on Facebook 4/16

Achievement, Adjust, Ages, Beach, Care, Changes, Cottage, Cruise, Diet, Enjoy, Exit, Explore, Finances, Fitness, Freedom, Future, Grandchildren, Income, Insurance, Investments, Letters, Life, Live, Milestone, Money, Move, Option, Part Time, Planning, Play, Read, Relocate, Routine, Savings, Security, Share, Support, Tour, Travel, Treat, Volunteer

Yesterday's Answer: Kinship

Treasury 12, 13, 14 or 15 can be purchased online at wonderword.universaluclick.com. (Contain 130 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

Job Vacancy Announcement

(4) Cook – Minimum 3 years work related experience. Specialized in Russian Food. Flexible working hours. Rate $ 5.55/hr.

(4) Bartender / Waitstaff – Minimum 3 years work related experience. Flexible working hours. Rate $ 5.55/hr.

(2) Cleaner/Janitor – Flexible working hours. Rate $ 5.55/hr.

All applicants must be able to consistently demonstrate good customer service. Please mail resume with job references to PMB 173 Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950 or email info@ecsaipan.com Emerald City, LLC dba East/West Restaurant/Siberia Restaurant/Jazz Café & Bar

L & F, Incorporated
Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Accountant - $5.75/hr
Bachelor's degree in Accounting
Knowledge in Peach Tree software
5 years of experience required

(2) Maintenance Repairer - $5.55/hr
5 years experience in Rod/Reel and Gun repairs

(1) Administrative Assistant - $5.55/hr
Bachelor's degree in Business Administration w/ experience in bookkeeping
5 yrs. experience required

Applicants must be able to work flexible hours and must have a valid CNMI driver's license

Please email resume to info@fishingtacklesaipan.com no later than April 21, 2014

Job Vacancy Announcement

(13) Beautician

(4) Massage Therapist

All applicants should have a minimum 3 years work related experience. Must be able to consistently demonstrate good customer service, preferably knows how to speak Chinese and Japanese. Flexible working hours. Rate $5.55/hr.

Please mail resume to PMB 373 Box 10003, Saipan, MP 96950 or email newsic426@gmail.com. New Star International Corporation dba Asahi Beauty Salon and Asahi Massage Therapy.

YANO ENTERPRISES, INC.
dba: **Kinpachi Restaurant**

Job Vacancy Announcement

Assistant Restaurant Manager (1)
Responsible for managing the daily operations of the restaurant, includes assigning responsibilities to staff. In addition, must oversee the inventory and ordering of food and supplies, optimize profits and ensure that guests are satisfied with their dining experience. Oversee and manage all areas of the restaurant and make final decisions on matters of importance to guest service. Enforce sanitary practices for food handling, general cleanliness, and maintenance of kitchen and dining areas. Ensure compliance with operational standards, company policies, federal/state/local laws, and ordinances. Be able to present oral & written reports to the Manager. Have basic Japanese oral skills and extensive knowledge of Japanese food products.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test.

Applicants of positions listed above are required to have a minimum of 3-5 year experience. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.

Please no phone calls.

American K&W Corporation
PMB 978 BOX 10001 Saipan, MP 96950
Job Vacancy Announcement
(5) Chef
Salary $5.55 p/h. High School graduate. Minimum 5 years experience in cooking and preparing authentic Chinese cuisine. Knowledge in Chinese and Japanese languages a plus.
If interested, email thomastchong@gmail.com

Warehouse for RENT
REM GUALO RAI
Warehouse #3 - Size: 4,000sq/ft
$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable
REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #2 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
$0.45 per sq/ft. Negotiable
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEAS CALL 235-6527/28 or 285-1317

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Realty Management Services

Fina Sisu Terraces
Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **$250**/month.
2-BR, 1-BTH. **$350-$550**/month. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.

Ocean View Terraces
(Navy Hill)) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view.
$600/month

Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view.
$550/month

Hilltop Codominium
(San Vicente) Unit approximately 1,024sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 2BTH Apt with private balcony & majestic view.
$700/month
Luxury 1BR & 1BTH approximately 600 sq/ft
$500/month
Wi-Fi & nighttime security excluded

FEATURES:
- **Fully Furnished**
- **Back-up Generator**
- **Air-conditioning in all rooms**
- **FREE WiFi**
- **Laundry Area**
- **Nighttime Security**
- **Ample Parking**
- **24hr water**

Please visit our website at www.saipan-properties.com Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

MISA ENTERPRISES,INC.
Job Vacancy Announcement

General Maintenance (2):
Must have a valid CNMI driver's license and flexible in work hours. Duties may involve skills in electrical, plumbing, carpentry, masonry, painting, landscape or maintain grounds of property using hand or power tools or equipment. Can typically perform variety of task such as sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking and installing , repairing buildings, floors or stairs.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and good moral character, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test.

Applicants of position listed above are required to have a minimum of 3-5 years of experience.
Applications can be picked-up at Kinpachi Restaurant, MISA Building 4, Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.

No phone calls please.

Global Investment Group, LLC dba New Tokyo Sakura Club
is now hiring
(1) **Assistant Manager**
Atleast 2 to 4 years of work experience in hospitality industry.
(1) **Waitress**
All applicants must be fluent in Japanese and Chinese language.
Call 287-8098 and ask for Jerry

PACIFIC BASIN INSURANCE COMPANY
Job Vacancy Announcement
Insurance Underwriter (1)
Minimum experience of five years. Bachelor degree in Commerce of Education. Knowledge in Quickbook software.
Interested applicants may apply at Pacific Basin Insurance Co. office. An insurance written test maybe required.

PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN

is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

(1) ASSISTANT FRONT OFFICE MANAGER
Assists with the Front Office operations, including a Call Center, Concierge, Tour Desk and Guest Service operations; Must have the ability to train employees to ensure standards of the hotel are met. Minimum of five (5) years of hotel/hospitality is required. Minimum of two (2) years of previous experience managing the Front Office of a hotel is required. Excellent written and oral communication skills are necessary. Must be able to solve guest complaints and work in a high-pressured environment. Must be able to speak and understand one or more of the following languages: Korean, Japanese or Russian; Must be able to work graveyard shifts, evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) BAKER
Minimum three (3) years related work experience; Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(5) CHEF DE PARTIE
Minimum three (3) years experience in a similar capacity in a hotel; plus one (1) year supervisory experience; Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(12) COOK
Minimum one (1) year related work experience; Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(2) ELECTRICIAN
Minimum five (5) years related work experience; Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) FRONT DESK CLERK
Minimum one (1) year work experience, preferably in hospitality; Previous cashiering experience required; Must be able to work graveyard shifts, evenings, weekends, and holidays; Fluency in Korean, Russian and/or Japanese languages preferred.

(2) GENERAL MAINTENANCE
Minimum three (3) years related work experience, preferably in a large hotel; Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) JAPAN MARKETING ASSISTANT
College degree preferred with at least three (3) years of work experience in the hospitality industry. Must be proficient in speaking, reading, and writing in the English and Japanese language; Must be proficient in the use of Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint as well as Japanese software applications; Internet research abilities and strong communication skills are required. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(3) LEAD COOK
Minimum three (3) years experience as a cook; at least one (1) year supervisory experience preferred; Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) RESERVATIONS SUPERVISOR
Controls all bookings for the resort to ensure high yield and profitability; Must have a minimum of three (3) years experience working in Front Desk or Reservations for a hotel, plus have at least one (1) year of supervisory experience, preferably in hospitality; Must be able to use Microsoft Excel and hotel reservation system; Must be able to understand, speak, read, write English and Korean. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) TEPPENYAKI COOK
Minimum five (5) years related work experience; Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) WEB MARKETING MANAGER/GRAPHIC DESIGNER
College degree required; Must have experience in reviewing and analyzing web analytics tools; Must be proficient in the use of Apple MC, MS Office, Epitome, HTML and web design; Must be proficient in graphic design software in a MAC environment using: Adobe Photoshop Creative Suite 6.0, Adobe Indesign and Adobe Illustrator; Must have strong organizational skills along with the ability to create high visual impact designs.

Completed applications must be received by 5:00pm on APRIL 25, 2014.
PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance.
A copy of valid police clearance (less than 6 months old) must be attached to the application.
Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.
Skills testing may be required for some positions.
PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper
Call 235-NEWS

LCD & Plasma TV Repair
Samsung, Philips, Vizio...etc
Call for more information
Calvatron **233-5641**
Open: Monday-Saturday 9:00am - 7:00pm
www.calvatron.net

S.Y.N. LLC dba Jiang Li Xiang
is now hiring
(1) **Assistant Manager**
Atleast 2 to 4 years of work experience in hospitality industry.
(1) **Waitress**
All applicants must be fluent in Japanese and Chinese language.
Call 285-9885 and ask for Jerry

WHATZIT Solution: Plumbline

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

DAMSONGREENGAGEPRUNE

WHATZIT? © 2014 www.whatzit.com Distributed by Universal Uclick

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

LeBron-less Miami loses; Pacers get top seeding

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Miami Heat opted for rest for LeBron James and Chris Bosh over the pursuit of the Eastern Conference's top seed, and the Washington Wizards capitalized in a 114-93 breeze of a game Monday night that clinched the No. 1 seed for the Indiana Pacers.

Trevor Ariza scored 25 points for the host Wizards, who shot 59 percent and made 14 3-pointers to remain one game ahead of the Charlotte Bobcats in the race for the East's No. 6 seed.

The No. 6 seed will avoid playing the Heat in the first round of the playoffs.

Michael Beasley scored 18 points for the Heat, and Toney Douglas had 14 for the two-time defending champs, who will be the No. 2 seed when the playoffs begin this weekend.

The Heat began the day still in contention for the top spot, but they would have needed to win their last two games and have Indiana lose to Orlando on Wednesday because the Pacers hold the head-to-head tiebreaker.

Figuring it would be better to be fresh for the postseason, Heat coach Erik Spoelstra sat James and Bosh, saying they were dealing with "the residual of a long season."

Miami Heat guard Dwyane Wade (3) shoots in front of Washington Wizards forward Martell Webster (9) and forward Nene (42), from Brazil, in the first half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, April 14, 2014, in Washington. The Wizards won, 114-93.

Grizzlies 97, Suns 91

In Phoenix, Zach Randolph scored 32 points and the Memphis Grizzlies clinched the final playoff berth in the Western Conference with a 97-91 victory over Phoenix on Monday night that eliminated the Suns from postseason contention.

The Grizzlies scored the last six points of an intense fourth quarter.

Mike Conley sank a 3-pointer to put Memphis ahead for good 93-91 with 1:08 to play. Goran Dragic threw the ball away on the Suns' next possession and Randolph scored inside to make it 95-91 with 47.1 seconds left.

Raptors 110, Bucks 100

In Toronto, Greivis Vasquez scored 25 points, Kyle Lowry had 24 and the Toronto Raptors set a franchise record with their 48th win. Jonas Valanciunas had 14 points and 13 rebounds and Tyler Hansbrough had 12 points and 11 rebounds as the Raptors won for the sixth time in seven games and completed the first season sweep of Milwaukee in franchise history. Toronto had dropped 11 consecutive games against the Bucks coming into this season, but has since won four straight. Ramon Sessions scored 21 points, Jeff Adrien had 19 points and Brandon Knight 18 as the Bucks lost their 14th straight road game, matching a record for futility set in the 2004-05 season.

Bobcats 95, Hawks 93

In Atlanta, Chris Douglas-Roberts dribbled into the lane and sank a short jumper as time expired, and the Charlotte Bobcats overcame a 15-point deficit in the final period to win. Al Jefferson had 27 points and 15 rebounds for Charlotte, which remained one game behind Washington in the race for the sixth spot in the Eastern Conference playoffs. Gary Neal had 17. The Hawks rested starters Kyle Korver, Paul Millsap and DeMarre Carroll. Mike Scott led Atlanta with 20 points. Shelvin Mack and Williams each had 13.

76ers 113, Celtics 108

In Philadelphia, Michael Carter-Williams had 21 points and 14 rebounds, and Tony Wroten scored 20 points for Philadelphia. Chris Johnson appeared to hit the game-tying 3-pointer with 0.9 seconds remaining but stepped out of bounds before attempting the desperation shot. James Anderson made two free throws a half-second later to seal Philadelphia's win. Kelly Olynyk scored 28 points to lead the Celtics. Jeff Green had 27 points and Avery Bradley added 23. Rajon Rondo finished with eight points, 14 assists and 11 rebounds.

Bulls 108, Magic 95

In Chicago, Joakim Noah had 18 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists, and Mike Dunleavy scored 22 points as the Bulls pulled away late to win. With one game left in the regular season, the Bulls are fourth in the Eastern Conference playoff race and looking at a first-round matchup with Brooklyn. To catch Toronto and finish third, the Bulls would need to win the season finale at Charlotte on Wednesday and have the Raptors lose at the Knicks.

Rockets 104, Spurs 98

In Houston, Chandler Parsons scored 21 points and Dwight Howard and Terrence Jones added 20 apiece to lift Houston. The victory gave No. 4 seed Houston home-court advantage in their first-round playoff series with Portland. Marco Belinelli had 17 points to lead the Spurs, who limited the minutes of stars Tim Duncan, Tony Parker and Manu Ginobili with their top seed in the Western Conference playoffs already secure.

Pelicans 101, Thunder 89

In New Orleans, Tyreke Evans scored a career-high 41 points to go with nine rebounds, eight assists and three steals, and New Orleans snapped an eight-game skid by shocking the playoff-bound Thunder. New Orleans beat the Thunder for the first time in 11 meetings, dating to Jan. 24, 2011. Kevin Durant scored 25 for the Thunder, who have lost two straight and won't lock up the No. 2 seed in the Western Conference playoffs without at least one more win or a Los Angeles Clippers loss. Oklahoma City played without Russell Westbrook, who was given the night off to rest.

Lakers 119, Jazz 104

In Salt Lake City, Nick Young scored a season-high 43 points and helped Los Angeles snap a seven-game losing streak. Jodie Meeks had 23 points and Jordan Hill added 21 for Lakers, who had only eight healthy players. Alec Burks scored 22 points and Gordon Hayward had 21 points for Utah. Enes Kanter had 19 points and 12 rebounds and Trey Burke chipped in 17 for the Jazz, who have lost 10 of 11 games.

Warriors 130, Timberwolves 120

In Oakland, Curry had 32 points and 15 assists, and the reeling Golden State Warriors rallied from 19 points down in the first half to beat the Minnesota Timberwolves 130-120 on Monday night.

After learning that center Andrew Bogut could miss extended time with a fractured right rib, the Warriors (50-31) withstood a strong start by Kevin Love to secure the sixth seed in the Western Conference playoffs. They finish the regular season Wednesday at Denver before beginning the postseason at the Los Angeles Clippers or Oklahoma City this weekend.

Warriors' Bogut out indefinitely with rib fracture

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—The playoffs have not even begun and the Golden State Warriors are already dealing with a big blow to their postseason chances.

The Warriors announced Monday night that an X-ray on center Andrew Bogut revealed a fractured right rib. The injury could keep him out for the start of the playoffs - and possibly all of the postseason.

Warriors coach Mark Jackson and Bogut both said that he's out indefinitely and gave no timetable for his return. But speaking in a somber tone in his corner of the locker room, Bogut said he has done enough research and spoken to enough doctors that he will not come back until the rib heals, which typically takes at least six weeks.

"I've got to be careful, because if it cracks I'm looking at a punctured lung. You'll see me in the hospital with a tube coming out of me," Bogut said. "It's one of those things people have played through, but this is too close to comfort for me."

Bogut said he first felt the injury when Denver's Kenneth Faried elbowed him in a loss to the Nuggets last Thursday. The symptoms continued against the Los Angeles Lakers on Friday, he said, and he took a pain-killing injection before playing at Portland on Sunday night.

Bogut left the overtime loss to the Trail Blazers in the fourth quarter after getting sandwiched by two players. He said he can't take deep breaths and is pain anytime he coughs or sneezes - let alone tries to run.

"It definitely wasn't as bad until I fully cracked it," Bogut said. "I thought I was winded for a second, but it wasn't going away. I ended up going back in the game for the last possession (of regulation). I don't know how."

Backup center Jermaine O'Neal was starting in Bogut's place Monday night against Minnesota. Jackson said he could slide power forwards David Lee or Marreese Speights to center if needed depending on the matchup in the playoffs.

Last year's backup center, Festus Ezeli, has been out all season recovering from right knee surgery and remains day to day. Jackson also indicated that seldom-used reserve centers Hilton Armstrong and Ognjen Kuzmic are likely not options.

"It certainly does not make us a better basketball team," Jackson said of Bogut's absence.

Golden State's center is hardly the only one on the team ailing at the worst time of the season.

Starting small forward Andre Iguodala sat out Monday night with right knee tendinitis that he has said is something he will have to deal with for the rest of the season. Lee is playing with a nerve injury in his right hamstring and back and O'Neal has been coping with pain in his wrist and knees.

Harrison Barnes started for Iguodala against the Timberwolves. The Warriors visit Denver in their regular-season finale Wednesday night before the playoffs begin Saturday or Sunday, likely at the Los Angeles Clippers.

But Bogut's injury will impact the Warriors more than any of those recently rehabbing. He averaged just 7.3 points, 10 rebounds and 1.81 blocks in 67 games this season, but he is among the league leaders in several defensive ratings and played a major role in Golden State's run to the second round of last year's playoffs.

Phelps ending retirement, eyes Rio Games

NEW YORK (AP)—Michael Phelps is coming out of retirement, lured back into the pool by the fun of it and the possibility of swimming at a fifth Olympics in Rio in 2016.

The 22-time Olympic medalist will compete for the first time since the 2012 London Games at a meet in Mesa, Ariz., on April 24-26.

Bob Bowman, the swimmer's longtime coach, told The Associated Press on Monday that Phelps is entered in three events—the 50—and 100-meter freestyles and the 100 butterfly.

"I think he's just going to test the waters a little bit and see how it goes," Bowman said by phone from Baltimore. "I wouldn't say it's a full-fledged comeback."

Phelps returned to training last fall and re-entered the U.S. drug-testing program. He has completed his six-month waiting period by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency to be eligible for competition.

Bowman said Phelps is "pretty far" from being back in top form. He's been training Monday through Friday with Bowman's team at the North Baltimore Aquatic Club in his hometown.

"He's gotten back into good shape since September," the coach said. "He can give a good effort and certainly not be embarrassed. He's in enough shape to swim competitively."

Besides Phelps, USA Swimming said Olympians Ryan Lochte and Katie Ledecky are among those expected to swim in the Arena Grand Prix at Skyline Aquatic Center.

"I'm excited to see what he can do," Ledecky told the AP by phone in between classes at her high school in Maryland. "Definitely, it'll bring some more energy to swimming again."

Phelps turns 29 in June and is the winningest and most decorated athlete in Olympic history. He captured 18 gold medals and 22 medals overall at the last three Summer Games. He broke Mark Spitz's record for a single Olympics by winning eight gold medals at Beijing in 2008.

If he comes back and doesn't dominate, Bowman said it wouldn't tarnish Phelps' reputation.

"His legacy is sealed," the coach said.

Ledecky agreed that Phelps has nothing to lose by diving back in.

"It's just for his own personal kind of thing," she said. "He's already done so much. Whether he adds a couple more gold medals or not, what he's done has been so incredible, whatever he does next should be accepted by all."

Phelps had vowed that he wouldn't swim into his 30s. Since retiring less than two years ago, he has stayed busy with a chain of swim schools, a foundation focused on water safety and appearances on behalf of his sponsors. He devoted lots of time to golf and participated in a reality show with famed coach Hank Haney.

Five-time Olympian Dara Torres knows about comebacks. At 41, she made the 2008 U.S. Olympic team in her second return to the sport and won three silver medals. At 33, she made the 2000 Olympics after seven years in retirement.

In this Aug. 3, 2012, file photo, United States' Michael Phelps displays his gold medal for the men's 100-meter butterfly swimming final at the Aquatics Centre in the Olympic Park during the 2012 Summer Olympics in London. Phelps is coming out of retirement, the first step toward possibly swimming at the 2016 Rio Olympics.

Torres said she came back twice because she missed competing.

"Knowing how competitive Michael is, I'm sure that's a big factor," Torres said. "When you're on top of your sport and all of a sudden you're not and you're out there in life, you miss what you used to do. When you retire, nothing is structured; with swimming, it's very structured."

Phelps' camp is being low-key about the comeback, and he wasn't made available to speak Monday.

"I think he's just really enjoying it," Bowman said. "He enjoys the training and being physically fit. He just kind of wants to see where he's at. It's more really for fun. It's been nice for me to see him swim just for the joy of it really."

Olympian Jessica Hardy, who will compete in Mesa, said many swimmers were surprised by the news.

"He kept it pretty much under wraps," she said. "Even if he's not at peak performance, it's great for the sport and each athlete particularly to keep learning from him. I don't think anyone wants to put pressure on him. He's accomplished everything you pretty much can. It's just great to see what else you can do."

Phelps won't be coming back for the money, having earned tens of millions of dollars in endorsements during his career. However, his endorsement potential certainly goes up if he's in the water. His presence on the pool deck will give a boost to USA Swimming, which can endlessly market him.

"Anytime you can have the most decorated Olympian in history in the pool, it's a fantastic thing for swimming," said Chuck Wielgus, executive director of USA Swimming. "USA Swimming and Michael share the goal of growing the sport, and his return to competition will surely inspire even more kids to give swimming a try."

Phelps' name recognition goes far beyond the pool deck. He's as well-known as athletes from far more prominent sports, such as NBA star LeBron James, which is an accomplishment for a swimmer whose sport gets most of its attention in an Olympic year.

In Mesa, Phelps will swim 100 free and 100 fly preliminaries on the first day. Then, if he qualifies, he'll decide which race to swim for the evening finals, Bowman said. He'll swim the 50 free on the second day and might swim the 50 fly "just for fun," the coach added.

"I bet you're going to see a little spark in him that you didn't see in 2012," Torres said.

Phelps will stick to the shorter races and some relays rather than the grueling individual medleys he swam during the height of his career.

"He's really doing this because he wants to - there's no outside pressure at all," Bowman said.

Phelps has already entered the remaining Grand Prix meets in Charlotte, N.C., in May and Santa Clara, Calif., in June, although Bowman said no decision has been made on whether he will compete.

Depending on his early results, Phelps could compete in the U.S. National Championships in August in Irvine, Calif., where teams will be selected for the 2015 world championships.

"I wouldn't say it's 100 percent on the radar," Bowman said. "After Mesa, we're going to sit down and talk about it."

Pinch-hit HR lifts A's past Angels

ANAHEIM, California (AP) — Pinch-hitter John Jaso came through with a two-run homer off closer Ernesto Frieri in the ninth inning, sending the Oakland Athletics to a 3-2 victory over the Los Angeles Angels on Monday night.

Yoenis Cespedes also went deep for the A's, offsetting Albert Pujols' 496th home run.

Frieri (0-1) was trying to preserve a 2-1 lead for starter Hector Santiago when Josh Donaldson led off the ninth with a single. One out later, Jaso drove a 1-2 pitch deep into the right-field seats for his first homer of the season and the first by an A's pinch-hitter.

Jaso has six homers and 21 RBIs at Angel Stadium along with a .424 average, the highest by any player with at least 75 plate appearances at the "Big A."

Jim Johnson (1-2) got the victory with a scoreless eighth, and Luke Gregerson earned his second save.

Pujols also had an RBI single.

Orioles 7, Rays 1

In Baltimore, Chen Wei-yin took a four-hitter into the seventh inning as Baltimore got its offense back on track against Chris Archer in a victory over Tampa Bay.

Matt Wieters and J.J. Hardy each had three hits, scored twice and drove in a run for the Orioles, who were coming off a three-game series against Toronto in which they scored only five runs in 30 innings.

In this one, Baltimore built a 6-0 lead over the first three innings and coasted to the finish. The Orioles had 13 hits, including five doubles.

It was by far the worst of Archer's 30 big league starts. The seven runs and 12 hits allowed by Archer (1-1) were both career highs, and his ERA jumped from 1.38 to 4.50.

Mariners 7, Rangers 1

In Arlington, Mike Zunino homered an inning before adding an RBI single in Seattle's strange six-run outburst that included three Texas Rangers errors and a replay reversal that gave the Mariners a run.

Roenis Elias (1-1) worked into the seventh inning with five strikeouts for his first major league victory in his third career start.

The Mariners went ahead to stay in the fifth on Zunino's solo homer off Colby Lewis (0-1), who made his first big league start in 21 months after elbow and hip operations.

Rangers manager Ron Washington was ejected during Seattle's six-run sixth for arguing a call that was overturned on instant replay in favor of the Mariners.

Brewers 4, Cardinals 0

In Milwaukee, the Brewers' nine-game winning streak was ended Monday when Lance Lynn struck out 11 in seven innings and Jon Jay hit a three-run homer for the St. Louis Cardinals in a 4-0 victory.

Lynn allowed three hits over seven innings before Carlos Martinez finished off the surprising Brewers, who still have the majors' best record at 10-3. Lynn (3-0) frustrated hitters by mixing a fastball that topped 95 mph with a slider.

Jhonny Peralta hit a solo shot in the second off Brewers starter Matt Garza (0-2) before Jay sent a ball over the wall near the right field corner in the sixth.

Braves 9, Phillies 6

In Philadelphia, Dan Uggla hit two home runs, including a grand slam in the ninth inning that lifted the Atlanta Braves to a wild win over the Phillies.

Evan Gattis also homered twice and Uggla drove in five runs as the Braves won their fourth straight. The teams combined for five homers and 12 runs in the final two innings.

Gattis, Uggla and Andrelton Simmons hit consecutive homers in the eighth that put Atlanta ahead 5-1.

Domonic Brown's three-run homer capped a five-run bottom of the eighth that gave the Phillies a 6-5 lead.

Pirates 7, Reds 7, 6 innings suspended

In Cincinnati, Neil Walker and Gaby Sanchez hit back-to-back homers twice as the Pirates and Reds combined for 10 homers in only six innings before rain forced a suspension.

The game will be resumed in the top of the seventh inning Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

Pittsburgh hit six solo shots and Cincinnati had four homers, most of them into a heavy rain. Already, it's the most homers in a major league game since 2006.

Nationals 9, Marlins 2

In Miami, Jordan Zimmermann bounced back from the shortest start of his career to pitch seven innings and lead the Nationals to a win over the Marlins, who endured their eighth loss in a row.

Bryce Harper had two doubles and an RBI triple for Washington. He has batted .520 over his past seven games to boost his average to .348.

Catcher Sandy Leon hit his first career home run, while Tyler Moore also homered and had an RBI single. Anthony Rendon drove in three runs with a double and a triple, and Danny Espinosa doubled and tripled for two of the Nationals' 11 extra-base hits.

Zimmermann (1-0) allowed two runs, struck out seven and lowered his ERA from 8.10 to 5.27.

Yankees take solo lead in SBL

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Stevedore Yankees got even with the Brewers, cruising to a 9-2 win in their second outing in the 2014 Saipan Baseball League last Monday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The victory also gave the Yankees the solo lead in the six-team field, as the 2012 champions improved to an 8-1 record. The defending champions GSM Brewers fell to second place with their 7-2 card. Both teams have one more game left in the regular season with the Yankees meeting the Northern Starz first on April 21 and the Brewers facing the latter on April 23. The four remaining games in the double-round robin regular season will determine the winners of the last two semis tickets this season, as the Brewers and Yankees have already secured the first two.

The Yankees boosted their chances to get the top seeding in the best-of-three semis series after neutralizing the Brewers, who scored only in the second and eighth inning.

Manny Cabrera and Kelvin Kapileo pitched for the Yankees with the former staying on the mound for two innings and giving up only two hits and one earned run. Kapileo closed out for the Yankees and allowed six hits and one earned run, while striking out six.

Cabrera gave up an RBI double to the Brewers' Ton Leon Guerrero at the bottom of the second inning for the first run in the match. An A.J. Lizama run off a passed ball in the third inning tied the match before the Yankees grabbed the lead in the fourth, thanks to Brian Camacho's three-run single.

The Yankees failed to score in the next two innings, but bounced back in the last three, getting four more runs to widen the gap, as the Brewers took time to nail their second run with Manny Sablan drilling an RBI double at the bottom of the eighth. Earlier at the top of the seventh, Pat Alepuyo had a sacrifice out, while Greg Iskawa and Chris Camacho reached off passed balls at the top of the eighth, and Iskawa blasted an RBI triple in the ninth.

The Yankees then finished off the Brewers quickly at top of the ninth with Kapileo striking out leadoff batter Diego Camacho and the last two batters going out on a double play. Centerfielder Ben Jones was on top of the last two defensive stops, as he caught a fly from Tyrone Omar and then threw the ball to Iskawa at second base for the tag out on Leon Guerrero.

Pacquiao: I'm ready for Mayweather bout

Manny Pacquiao is seen here during the weigh-in for his title bout against Timothy Bradley in Las Vegas last week.

LAS VEGAS—Manny Pacquiao is back to sow fear in the ring, and one of his chief targets is Floyd Mayweather, the undefeated American.

"My line is open 24 hours, seven days a week," the Filipino world welterweight champion said after demolishing the previously unbeaten Timothy Bradley. "All they (Mayweather camp) need to do is call."

Pacquiao is expected to return to Manila on Friday. He will leave for General Santos City the next day to be with his wife Jinkee, the Sarangani vice governor, who is expected to give birth anytime this month.

Mayweather, 37, continues to shun calls for a showdown with Pacquiao.

The American will put his perfect 45-0 record on the line against Argentina's Marcos Maidana on May 3 in a welterweight world title clash.

In beating Bradley and recapturing the World Boxing Organization (WBO) welterweight crown, Pacquiao proved he still has a lot of gas left in his tank and that he should be good for two more years of fighting at the elite level.

Meaning at least three more fights.

"This [win] means that I still got what it takes," Pacquiao told Filipino sportswriters on Sunday as the customized bus bearing his image headed for Los Angeles. "I feel as if I am starting all over again."

Pacquiao's energy and precision in his fight with Bradley backed the 35-year-old's claim that his boxing journey is far from over—making talk of a mouth-watering Pacquiao-Mayweather match inevitable.

"If he wants to fight, the fight will be on," Pacquiao said, although history has shown it's not that easy.

In late 2009 and early 2010, Pacquiao and Mayweather were considered the world's top pound-for-pound fighters and record profits were expected from a showdown.

But a disagreement over prefight blood testing scuttled talks already complicated by the need to satisfy rival pay-per-view outlets HBO and Showtime.

Other negotiations broke down over the division of the purse, and the intervening years have brought a further chill to relations between Bob Arum's Top Rank Promotions and Oscar De La Hoya's Golden Boy Promotions.

"It's really hard to talk about that," Pacquiao said. "How many years have we talked about it and it hasn't happened?"

Trainer Freddie Roach seems to flip-flop as to whether the bout will ever take place, saying he thought it would if only because the pool of potential opponents for both Pacquiao and Mayweather is so small.

COMETS

From Page 28

ning began with Comets I starting pitcher Jessie Taitano walking leadoff batter Elijah Lizama, who went on to advance to second and third off passed balls. Taitano was then relieved by Frederick, who struck out the Rockies' next two batters before walking fourth batter Laterel Deleon Guerrero. Keoni Lizama was next at bat for the Rockies and was booted out on a 1-3 putout play, saving Comets I's one-run win.

IP&E threatened Comets I, 6-7, when Dai Podziewski scored off an error at centerfield at the bottom of the fifth inning and Comets I went 1-2-3 on a double play at the top of the last inning. Comets I was without a run in the last three innings, but its five-run top of the first gave the team cushion. Taitano blasted a two-run double in the first inning, while Sebastian Saures and Niffton Rasiong hit RBI singles, and the other run came off a miscue at third base.

A one-run homer from Tyrese Camacho, Podziewski's RBI single, and Brandon Delos Reyes' run off an error at first base kept IP&E in the game, 4-5, and the latter remained in contention in the next four innings before Frederick stepped up on defense and saved the day for Comets I.

Enforcers 8, Red Sox 6

The JPO Enforcers boosted their playoff chances after slipping past the Red Sox in the third and final game last Saturday.

The Enforcers won the exchanged in the first four innings and shut out the Red Sox in the last two for the close win. Peter Litulimar contributed two RBIs and two runs in the four innings, hitting a single and triple in the second and fourth inning, respectively. The Enforcers got two more earned runs.

The Red Sox had more earned runs (5), but failed to steal the win after moving within two runs, as they struggled against relief pitcher Dennis Cabrera. Cabrera got two quick outs at the top of the fifth off a strikeout and a 1-3 putout play and after walking the Red Sox third batter, he got the third out off another strikeout. Cabrera then struck out the Red Sox' first two batters at the top of the sixth and the inning and the match ended when Joven Reyes was beaten to first.

Meanwhile, the Braves and McDonald's played in the second game last Saturday with the latter putting the former's 6-5 win under protest. McDonald's contested one of the umpire's fair ball calls on the Braves at the bottom of the fourth inning.

The Braves scored one run off a fielder's choice in the fourth inning to have more breathing room, 4-2, and foiled the Red Sox's comeback bid when relief pitcher Vicente Camacho got two strikeouts and left one McDonald's runner stranded at first. McDonald's earlier had a sacrifice out.

STUDENTS

From Page 28

students Kaito Yanai, Gerald Rangamar, and Dylan Ackerman bested six other teams.

Hopwood Junior High School's Yanai negotiated the one-kilometer swim course in 10:29, the second fastest time behind Korean Eunkeong Sung (10:28), while Rangamar of Saipan Southern High School had the second best time in the 40K bike race with his 1:31:21. Southern's Ackerman's 56:52 in the 10K run was only the third-fastest in the field, but it was enough to give his team the lead in the relay division.

Ackerman reached the finish line at the American Memorial Park one minute and 11 seconds ahead of Steven Johnson, who had the fastest split time in the run leg with 55:26. Johnson teamed up with swimmer Steven Beyer (15:22) and biker Athena Andrews (1:29:05) and they combined for 2:39:53.

Coming in at third place with a time of 2:41:30 were swimmer Takumi Sugie (11:02), biker Samson Tan (1:35:11) and runner Cesar Danao (57:17). Other finishers were Rinto Takahashi, Tony Stearns, and Akiko Miller (2:55:29); Angel Marie Tan, Regina Sebial, and Glorybel Tan (2:55:35), Taiga Sato and David and Antonina Banes (3:04:36), and Vincent Seman, Ian Mulligan, and Galvin Deleon Guerrero (3:07:52).

NEW

From Page 28

Joining Batac and Talavera in the Top 3 was Lito Teodoro, who logged 780 pinfaslls in the second day of the tournament. Bowlers are allowed to compete in both days of the contest, but only the higher score is counted. Day 2 third placer Ador Dimaano slipped to fourth with his 771 pinfalls, while Percy Omechelang and Simon Manacop rounded out the Top 5 with identical 769 pinfalls.

Other bowlers who joined the weekend tournament were Tony Verdaguer (733), Raymond Angeles (718), Raymond Zapanta (713), Paul Pangelinan (708), Raphael Zapanta (702), Raul Dumapit (701), Lee Yong Woon (672), Jae Yong Kim (649), and Ben Aizon (604).

Meanwhile, in the Queen of the Lanes, Camacho earned 732 pinfalls to beat Elena Soll and the three-time winner Mersai.

Camacho, who was only in fourth place in Day 1 with her 654 pinfalls, found her form in Day 2, recording 211, 177, 171, and 173 for an average of 183 pinfalls. She was 24 pinfalls ahead of Day 1 leader and eventual runner-up Soll, who tallied 178, 176, 215, and 139 for 708 pinfalls in the opening day and 633 in the second day. Mersai settled for third place with her 685 (141, 150, 310, and 183) registered in last Sunday's tournament. The three-time monthly champion also bowled last Saturday and finished second behind Soll with her 677 pinfalls (167, 147, 198, and 165).

Others who participated in the weekend competition were Yho Villavicencio (676), Gloria Omechelang (637), Carrie Camacho (627), Ron Cal (614), Lala Taitano (608), Gigi Zapanta (598), Tess Fabie (582), and Lynn Santos (572).

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Toronto	48	33	.593	–
x-Brooklyn	44	36	.550	3½
New York	35	45	.438	12½
Boston	25	56	.309	23
Philadelphia	18	63	.222	30

Southeast Division

y-Miami	54	27	.667	–
x-Washington	43	38	.531	11
x-Charlotte	42	39	.519	12
x-Atlanta	37	44	.457	17
Orlando	23	58	.284	31

Central Division

z-Indiana	55	26	.679	–
x-Chicago	48	33	.593	7
Cleveland	32	49	.395	23
Detroit	29	52	.358	26
Milwaukee	15	66	.185	40

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

z-San Antonio	62	19	.765	–
x-Houston	54	27	.667	8
x-Dallas	49	32	.605	13
x-Memphis	49	32	.605	13
New Orleans	33	48	.407	29

Northwest Division

y-Oklahoma City	58	23	.716	–
x-Portland	53	28	.654	5
Minnesota	40	41	.494	18
Denver	36	44	.450	21½
Utah	24	57	.296	34

Pacific Division

y-L.A. Clippers	56	24	.700	–
x-Golden State	50	31	.617	6½
Phoenix	47	34	.580	9½
Sacramento	28	53	.346	28½
L.A. Lakers	26	55	.321	30½

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division
z-clinched conference

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

New York	7	6	.538	–
Toronto	7	6	.538	–
Tampa Bay	7	7	.500	½
Baltimore	6	7	.462	1
Boston	5	8	.385	2

Central Division

Detroit	6	4	.600	–
Chicago	7	6	.538	½
Minnesota	6	6	.500	1
Cleveland	6	7	.462	1½
Kansas City	4	7	.364	2½

West Division

Oakland	9	4	.692	–
Seattle	7	5	.583	1½
Los Angeles	6	7	.462	3
Texas	6	7	.462	3
Houston	5	8	.385	4

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	9	4	.692	–
Washington	8	5	.615	1
New York	6	7	.462	3
Philadelphia	6	7	.462	3
Miami	5	9	.357	4½

Central Division

Milwaukee	10	3	.769	–
St. Louis	8	5	.615	2
Pittsburgh	6	6	.500	3½
Chicago	4	8	.333	5½
Cincinnati	4	8	.333	5½

West Division

Los Angeles	9	4	.692	–
San Francisco	8	5	.615	1
San Diego	6	7	.462	3
Colorado	6	8	.429	3½
Arizona	4	12	.250	6½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bike Leg of Tagaman Triathlon

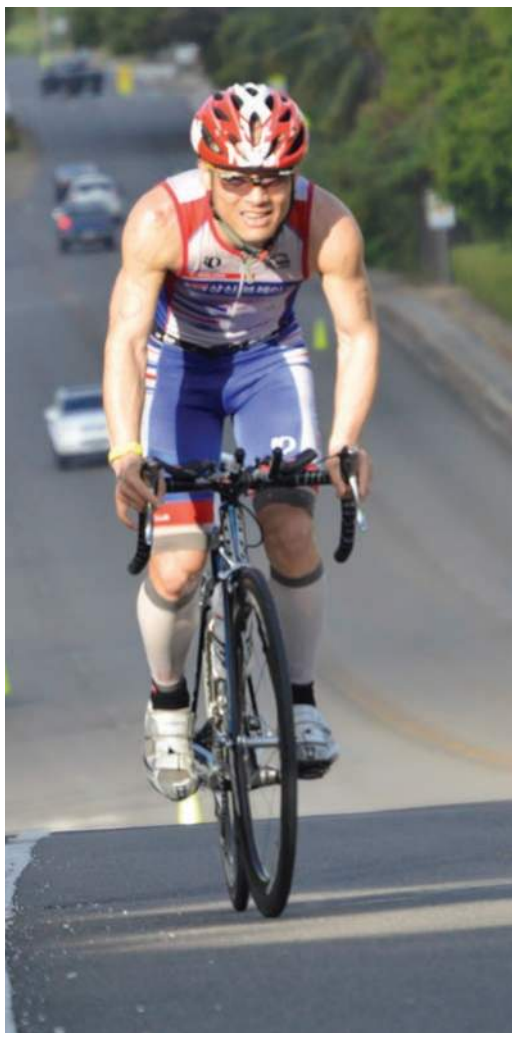
PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mieko Carey cruises along a residential area near the traffic lights in As Perdido during last Saturday's Tagaman Triathlon.

Three bikers head to Koblerville after passing through the Airport Road.

John Arceo races against Eric Cooke in an uphill road in front of the former Nikko Hotel.

The Philippines' Monica Torres negotiates a flat road up north.



Korea's Ii Hwan Oh bikes along the uphill road in front of the former Nikko Hotel.

Japan's Hideharu Okamura cruises along the road in front of the go-kart facility at the Mariana Resort.

Switzerland's Renata Bucher is all alone passing through As Perdido.

Austria's Carina Wasle and Saipan youth biker Erico Castro head out of Banzai Cliff.

Guam's Cameron O'Neal walks his bike to the transition area.

LeBron-less Miami loses; Pacers get top seeding

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Phelps ending retirement, eyes Rio Games

PAGE 25

Comets I seals playoff berth

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Comets I is assured of a playoff stint in the Major division of the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball, following a 7-6 win over the IP&E Rockies last Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

Comets I improved to a 10-3 record with one game left in the regular season of the 15-team field, joining the Falcons (11-2), IT&E (12-2), and the Braves (11-2) in the playoffs. The Rockies fell to a 6-7 slate and are battling five other teams—Laolao Bay (7-5), JPO Enforcers (8-4), Little Legals (8-5), McDonald's (6-7), and the Hustlers (7-8)—for the four remaining playoff tickets. Standings are not yet official and were made after last Sunday's matches.

Francisco Frederick got two straight strikeouts and also played a crucial role in the third out at the bottom of the sixth inning to help Comets I nose out IP&E.

The bottom of the sixth in-

See COMETS on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Francisco Frederick pitches against the Rockies at the bottom of the sixth inning of their game in the Major division of the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

New winners in SBA April roll-offs

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ronald Batac and Diana Camacho ended the streaks of Robert Talavera and Kathy Mersai after prevailing in Saipan Bowling Association's Budweiser King and Queen of the Lanes Tournament for April held over the weekend at the Saipan Bowling Center.

In the King of the Lanes, Batac collected 833 pinfalls to beat Talavera, who posted the second and third best scores (815 and 808) in the two-day tournament. Batac joined the Saturday competition and got off to a strong start with his 248 before closing out with 172, 220, and 193 in the last three games for the Day 1 lead and average of 208.25 pinfalls.

Talavera finished second in the opening day after two 200-plus pinfalls (269 and 202 in Games 1 and 4) and adding 168 and 169. The three-time monthly champion then returned to SBC for the Sunday roll-off, hoping to extend his string of victories, but fell short after a so-so performance in Game 2. Talavera knocked down only 172 pins in the pivotal Game 2 after firing a 225 in the opening game. He closed out with 203 and 216 in the final two games to still fall behind against Batac.

See NEW on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
April roll-off winner Ronald Batac is flanked by runners-up Robert Talavera, left, and Lito Teodoro during the brief awards ceremony for SBA's Budweiser King of the Lanes Tournament last Sunday at the Saipan Bowling Center.

Students stand out in Tagaman relays

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two students-led teams lorded it over in the relay races in last Saturday's Tagaman Triathlon.

In the Half Ironman division (70.3), Saipan Community School's Kento Akimaru and Marianas High School's Erico Castro teamed up with adult runner Goshi Gato and won against six other pairs after the trio combined for 4:52:26. Akimaru started the squad's campaign, completing the two-lap 1.9-kilometer swim course in the waters off the Pacific Islands Club at 20:41, the second fastest overall behind Korean National Team member and eventual men's division winner Ju Seok Kim (19:47).

The Saipan Swim Club swimmer tagged Castro at the swim-bike transition area with a four-minute lead over two other teams and the gap widened, as the latter registered the division fastest time in the 90K bike race with his 2:44:00. Gato then anchored the squad to victory after timing in at 1:47:45 in the 21K run. The trio of Castro, Akimaru, and Gato was the only team to complete the grueling race under five hours.

Second placers Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel, Philip Gauang, and Manny Arron clocked in at 5:25:25. Kabiriel was the team's swimmer and submitted 24:48, while Gauang and Aaron tallied 3:12:40 and 1:48:28 in the bike and run races, respectively.

The youthful pair of swimmer Lennusuke Suzuki and biker David Boyer joined forces with veteran runner Mamiko Oshima-Berger in finishing third overall and first in the mixed division. The group combined for 5:33:06 after Suzuki recorded 24:47, Boyer posted 3:25:04, and Oshima-Berger logged a field-best 1:43:15.

Other finishers in the Half Ironman relay were the teams of Anna Suber, James Abuy, and Toshiaki Satake (5:55:00); Jinnosuke Suzuki, Ricardo Antonio, and Enrique Evangelista Jr. (6:06:51); Sierra Kuisle, Raymund Tolentino, and Fred Remilloza (6:48:14); and father and son Ben and Benjamin Babauta (6:48:14).

In the Olympic distance race,

See STUDENTS on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Saipan Southern High School's Dylan Ackerman goes for a strong finish in the 10K run leg of last Saturday's Tagaman Triathlon.